BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP CSD vs. CITY OF WILLITS

Deposition of Donald G. McEdwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 2 COUNTY OF SONOMA 3 --000--BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY) SERVICES DISTRICT, a Public 5 Agency, Plaintiff, 6 7 Case No. SCV 253175 VS. 8 CITY OF WILLITS, a General Law City; and DOES 1 through 100, inclusive, 9 10 Defendants. 11 12 13 14 DEPOSITION OF DONALD G. McEDWARDS, Ph.D. Monday, April 21, 2014 15 16 17 18 19 20 Reported by: 21 KIM Y. ROTHERHAM, CSR No. 7397 22 23 SIMSON REPORTING Certified Shorthand Reporters 24 2200 Range Avenue, Suite 106 Santa Rosa, California 95403 25 (707) 578-7580 1

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BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP CSD vs. CITY OF WILLITS

Deposition of Donald G. McEdwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014

		Deposition of Done	ald G. 1	UCLAN	ards	s, Ph.D.	4/21/201	4	
1		BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, pursuant to		1			((Cont'd)		
2	Monday,	April 21, 2014, commencing at the hour	of	2					
3	10:08 a.	m., thereof, at the Law Offices of GEA	RY, SHEA,	3	DEPOSIT	'ION EXHIBITS		PAGE	
4	O'DONNEL	L, GRATTAN & MITCHELL, P.C., 37 Old Co	urthouse	4	177	One-page document "Enhancement Wetla	entitled,	100	
5	Square,	Santa Rosa, California, before me, KIM	Υ.	5		Plan"	mas este		
6	ROTHERHA	M, CSR No. 7397, State of California,	personally	6	178	Five-page Cost Pro letterhead of The		111	
7	appeared	:		7		dated May 29, 2013	3, addressed to		
8				8		Denise Rose, Gener City of Willits	.ar manager,		
9		DONALD G. McEDWARDS, Ph.D.,		9					
10	called a	s a witness by the Defendants; who, ha	ving been	10					
11	duly swo	rn by me, was thereupon examined and t	estified as	11					
12	is herei	nafter set forth.		12					
13		000		13					
14		APPEARANCES		14					
15	For the	Plaintiff:		15					
16		Offices of DANIEL F. CROWLEY & ASSOCI	ATES	16					
17		Old Courthouse Square, Suite 200 ta Rosa, California 95404		17					
18	Ву:	DANIEL F. CROWLEY, Esq.		18					
19	-	-		19					
20	For the	Defendant:		20					
21	Law	Offices of GEARY, SHEA, O'DONNELL,		21					
22		GRATTAN & MITCHELL, P.C. Old Courthouse Square, Fourth Floor		22					
23	San	ta Rosa, California 95404		23					
24	By:	LEO R. BARTOLOTTA, Esq.		24					
25				25					
1 2		INDEX		1		DONALD G. McE			
3	WITHERE		DACE	1		having been first o			
4	WITNESS	ALD G. McEDWARDS, Ph.D.	PAGE	3	;	examined and testi	ified as follows:		
5	DON	ABD G. MCBDWARDS, FR.D.		4	ļ				
		Examination by Mr. Bartolotta	5		i	EXAMINATI	ION		
6		Afternoon Session	8 4	6	BY MR	. BARTOLOTTA:			
7	DEDCGIET	ON EVUIDITE.				Good morning.			
8		ON EXHIBITS:	7	;		Good morning.			
9	169	Five-page document entitled, "Notice of Taking Deposition and	7			Could you please s	tate vour name a	nd snell your	
10		Request to Produce Documents and Things"				· ·		ia speli your	
11	170	Five-page Resume of Donald G.	19	3		ame for the court rep		- است میں ا	
12	- 44 /	McEdwards, Principal Hydrogeologist	20	1		Donald George Mc	•		
13	171	Thirteen-page document entitled, "Disclosure of Expert Witness:	32	17	-	Thank you. Have y	you ever nad your	aeposition	
14		Declaration Re Expert Witness Information"		13		before?			
15	172	One-page letter on the letterhead	45	14		Yes.			
16		of The McEdwards Group dated November 20, 2012, to Mr. Paul		1!		Approximately how	w many times?		
17		Cayler, City Manager		16	5 A.	Five.			
18	173	Multi-page packet entitled, "Willits Water Quality Control	51	17	' Q.	When was the last	time?		
19		Plant - Daily Meter Readings"		18	3 A.	Five years ago. I d	lon't really remem	ber.	
20	174	Four-page document entitled, "Accounting of Influent and	58	19			•		
21		Discharge Flows and Storage at WWTP"		20	-	I don't do many of	these.		
22	175	Eleven pages of Invoice from	92	2				took, how	
23		The McEdwards Group		2	•	of them were as an	•	COOK, HOW	
24	176	Three eight and a half by eleven black and white	97	- 1		All of them.	evheir miniess;		
25		photographs depicting ponds		2:			m + n	ound rules	
				24	•	Okay. So I'm going			
				2	i'm su	re you've heard ther	n before, but it's l	peen five	_
									5
				3					

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Deposition of Donald G. Mcl	Edwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014	
1 years, so I'll go through them and remind you. Okay?	1 mean.	
2 Everything we say is being taken down by the	2 Q. Have you seen this document before?	
3 court reporter verbatim. In order to make sure that	3 A. No.	
4 things go smoothly, wait until I'm done with my question	4 Q. Okay. If you turn to Exhibit A	
5 before you give an answer. I'll wait until you give your	5 A. Yes.	
6 full answer before I ask my next question. I need you to	6 Q. — this is what we asked you to bring:	
7 give a verbal response. An "huh-uh" or "uh-huh" doesn't	7 "Your complete file regarding plaintiff	
8 really come up on the transcript.	8 Brooktrails Township Community Services	
9 If I ask you a question you don't know the	9 District, including but not limited to, any	
10 answer to, please say "I don't know." If you say "I	and all records, reports, memoranda, notes,	
11 don't remember," that's a perfectly valid answer also.	photographs, drawings, sketches,	
12 Okay? However, if I ask a question and you answer it,	12 correspondence and any other documents and	ļ
13 the assumption is you understood what my question was.	13 things with regard to any and all	
14 Okay? So if I ask a question and you don't understand	14 consultations, studies, examinations,	
15 it, please say "I don't understand it" or "I can't answer	15 inspections and/or tests performed with	
16 it the way that you phrased it," and I will re-ask the	16 regard to the subject case."	
17 question.		
· ·	1	
18 I don't want you to guess, I don't want you to	18 and tests and any and all writings relating to those.	
19 speculate, but I am entitled to your best estimates. I	19 Have you produced — as part of what is sitting in front	
20 think estimates in this deposition may be something that	20 of us, the physical documents, as well as the thumb drive	
21 come up. Do you know the difference between a guess and	21 that you've given us, have you given us everything that's	
22 an estimate?	22 responsive to paragraph No. 1?	
23 A. Yes.	23 A. I did not know I needed my Curriculum Vitae	
Q. Okay. If you need to take a break at any time,	24 because I gave that to Chris Neary.	
25 let me know. Whether it's to talk to counsel, take a	25 Q. Okay. I have a copy so we'll go over that.	
	8	₹ :
6		,
		,
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that this is last	,
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay?	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that	,
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that this is last	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the	
 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll go off the record. Okay? A. Yes. Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you should be forewarned that if you make changes of a substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy?	
 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll go off the record. Okay? A. Yes. Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you should be forewarned that if you make changes of a substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at?	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that?	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 16 Q. And I'll go through it at that time rather than	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Any other reason that we can't go forward with	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 16 Q. And I'll go through it at that time rather than 17 make —	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Any other reason that we can't go forward with 18 your deposition today?	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 16 Q. And I'll go through it at that time rather than 17 make — 18 A. I understand. You're not going to take our	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Any other reason that we can't go forward with 18 your deposition today? 19 A. No.	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 16 Q. And I'll go through it at that time rather than 17 make — 18 A. I understand. You're not going to take our 19 time now.	
1 phone call, use the restroom, just let me know and we'll 2 go off the record. Okay? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. You're going to get a copy of this transcript 5 at a later date. You're going to be able to make changes 6 to the transcript, changes to your answers; however, you 7 should be forewarned that if you make changes of a 8 substantive nature, such as a "yes" to a "no" or add 9 facts that I don't get to ask you about, that that could 10 be commented on at the time of trial. It could affect 11 your credibility. Do you understand that? 12 A. Yes, I do. 13 Q. Okay. Is there any medications that you've 14 taken in the last 48 hours that would affect your ability 15 to give clear testimony? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Any other reason that we can't go forward with 18 your deposition today? 19 A. No. 20 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. Very good. I'm going	1 A. Okay. And I think he said that — this is last 2 minute. That's my billings to date. You wanted that 3 too, according to this. 4 Q. Yes. 5 A. I just went through my book and pulled out the 6 ones from that job. 7 Q. Can I keep this copy? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. So what I'm going to do is at some point we're 10 going to have a break and — what are you smiling at? 11 MR. CROWLEY: Nothing. 12 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 13 Q. And I'm going to go look at what was on the 14 directory you provided to us. 15 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 16 Q. And I'll go through it at that time rather than 17 make — 18 A. I understand. You're not going to take our 19 time now. 20 Q. So let me just kind of move forward. Is there	
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Deposition of Donald G. McE	dwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014
1 my secretary?	1 A. Gasoline, underground fuel tanks. There used
2 A. No.	2 to be a station there. Leaking underground storage
3 Q. Okay. The billing records that you just	3 tanks.
4 provided a copy of to me, these are dated from November	4 Q. Was this related to litigation that was
5 showing work done in October going through December 2013.	5 ongoing
6 A. October you were given a year.	6 A. No. They needed a consultant on
7 Q. I'm sorry; 2012. So it goes from basically	7 Q. Wait until I finish my question. Was that
8 the first entry on this is October 25th, 2012?	8 related to litigation or was that for a client of his,
9 A. If that's what it says there. I can't see it	9 just an ongoing environmental issue that needed to be
10 from here. Yes, my first day of work on this project for	10 addressed?
11 Brooktrails was 10/25/12.	11 A. For a client of his.
12 Q. And that first entry was:	12 Q. Okay. And so that was actually work that you
13 "Photograph ponds and embankments,	13 were doing as a consultant engineer — is it
14 calculate freeboard in three ponds and	14 geohydrologist?
15 e-mail titled photos to Chris Neary."	15 A. Hydrogeologist.
16 Obviously you must have met with Chris Neary	16 Q. Hydrogeologist. I got it reversed.
17 A. Yes.	17 And that did not result in any litigation?
18 Q. — or had a conversation with him prior to	18 A. No, it did not.
19 October 25th, 2012, correct?	19 Q. At least as far as you know?
20 A. Yes.	20 A. That's correct. The site is closed. There's
21 Q. Okay. What is when was the first time you	21 no litigation.
22 talked or spoke with Chris Neary?	<u> </u>
· · ·	22 Q. What was the next time you recall working for 23 Mr. Neary?
· ·	,
24 didn't charge for it, it was such a brief meeting.	24 A. I can't remember the next job. I've worked
25 Q. Okay. Have you ever worked with Mr. Neary	25 on there was a question about drainage in the building
10	
10	
1 before?	1 he is in, and I was asked to comment on SHN's report on
1 before? 2 A. Several times, yes.	2 that and about the source of TCE in the groundwater next
before? A. Several times, yes. Q. Had you ever worked with him before as in	2 that and about the source of TCE in the groundwater next 3 to the dry cleaning building that was affecting his
before? A. Several times, yes. Q. Had you ever worked with him before as in 4 relation to Brooktrails?	2 that and about the source of TCE in the groundwater next3 to the dry cleaning building that was affecting his4 building in Willits.
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11

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Q. And whatever became of that?

A. I gave the test results to Chris and I haven't

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24 involvement with him. That was in the '90s.

Q. Okay. What kind of tanks in Navarro?

13

- 1 followed through.
- Q. Okay. Can you name another project that you've
- 3 done with Chris?
- A. He is the attorney for the Harwoods, and so I
- 5 investigated the Harwood Mill in Branscomb as required by
- 6 the Water Board to investigate all sorts of contaminants
- 7 there. And that is almost winding down. We have a
- 8 little more monitoring to do, a little more boring, and
- 9 then it will be closed.
- Q. And who is your actual -- who are you working 10
- 11 for?
- 12 A. Calvin Harwood. Jackson Valley Industries.
- O. That's the client --13
- A. They changed their name, yes, for some
- 15 financial reason, but that's who I bill.
- Q. I'm sorry; Jackson? 16
- 17 A. Valley. Branscomb is in the Jackson Valley.
- And then I worked for, I think it's the 18
- 19 Community Services District. I didn't work directly for
- 20 Chris, but that was his client, and I worked for them as
- 21 well to look at the -- their waste -- their treatment
- 22 plant in Covelo.
- Q. And what did you do for them?
- A. I just got familiar with the treatment plant 24
- 25 and gave my opinion as to the operation.

- 2 Q. And do you know if they ended up suing SHN?
- I do not know. 3
- And what was the issue that they would have --
- was being considered for purposes of suing them?
- Poor design of the plant. 6
- 7 Poor design?
- 8 (Witness nods head.)
- 9 Q. And did you express any opinions as to whether
- 10 the plant was designed properly or not?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Were you --
- Not that I remember. I may have. I don't 13
- 14 remember. I just don't remember.
- 15 Okay. So what was your understanding of your
- 16 role?
- 17 A. To understand the operation and how -- what
- 18 they were doing and how the plant operated.
- Q. So other than meeting with the plant operator
- 20 and then meeting with the Board to discuss how the plant
- 21 operates, did you do anything further?
- A. I met with the Board, but I was essentially a
- 23 bystander and I heard what was going on. I didn't
- 24 contribute to the discussion.
- Q. Okay. Any other project that you can think of?

14

- Q. And you're talking about a wastewater treatment
- 2 plant?
- 3 A. Yes, it's the POTW in Covelo.
- Q. And when was that work?
- 5 A. Two years ago, possibly three.
- 6 Q. And what was the actual assignment that you 7 received?
- A. Go up and talk to the operator and get an idea
- 9 of what he does every day and why he has to do it and so
- 10 forth and the design of the plant and so forth.
- Q. And do you know what that information or what
- 12 your opinions were being used for?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. And did you prepare a written report?
- 15
- 16 Q. And did you report directly to Chris Neary?
- A. Yes, and we had a meeting with the Community 17
- 18 Services Board as well.
- Q. And what was the subject matter of the
- 20 discussion with the Board?
- A. They were thinking of suing SHN. 21
- Q. What does SHN stand for? 22
- A. That's the short name for the consulting firm
- 24 in Willits. It's Selvage, Heber, Nelson, I believe is
- 25 their actual names. They have an office in Eureka as

- A. There was a junkyard in Ukiah, which is next to
- 2 the Pomo Indian Reservation there. I think it's Pomo.
- 3 And they were suing him, the junkyard operator, for
- 4 creating a nuisance to the water, to the nearby creek.
- 5 So Chris was their attorney, and so Chris told them to
- 6 hire me to investigate the complaint.
- Q. The junkyard owner? 7
- A. Yes. T & T, I think it's called. And we were
- 9 able to show that the only problem that was coming -- the
- 10 only problem was the actual Indian Reservation itself;
- 11 that T & T was not contributing anything. But as part --
- 12 and they got a -- what do you call it? Summary judgment
- 13 dismissing the suit.
- 14 Q. So this was a lawsuit?
- A. That was -- yeah. Yeah. Correct. And then
- 16 following that, as part of the -- I don't know if it's
- 17 part of the settlement, but the Water Board in Santa Rosa
- 18 required that they do -- that they contain the runoff
- 19 water, to treat it before it went to the creek, the
- 20 surface water runoff.
- 21 Q. The Pomos?
- A. No. No, the junkyard. So I designed that for
- 23 them and they constructed and built it, and they're
- 24 monitoring it and I haven't heard anything from them.
 - Q. Did you submit a declaration or prepare a

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SIMSON REPORTING

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1 declaration in support of the summary judgment related to A. This I last updated about 15 years ago, so this 2 the suit? 2 is 15 years old, but I never bothered to change it, but 3 A. Yes. 3 there's no publications -- is there another page here? Q. Do you remember the name of the client? T & T? 4 There's a newer version, but the only thing different 5 between the newer version and this one is I have in my 5 A. T&T, yes. Q. And that was filed in Mendocino? 6 6 Exhibit 1, I invented a groundwater pump and that was 7 A. I believe so. It was in Ukiah, the site was. 7 down here as well, but that's not germane. 8 Q. Anything else that you can recall? Q. That's the only change? 8 9 A. I've done numerous odd jobs for Chris, but A. Yes. This is quite old because it has my phone 10 they're so -- so small, time extent, I can't remember. 10 number as 459-1086 and I changed that, like, two years Q. Any other cases involving lawsuits that you can 11 11 ago. 12 recall? 12 Q. Okay. 13 A. Well, I did hire Chris to represent me, but 13 A. I did send Chris a new copy. I don't know what 14 that wasn't -- nobody else was involved. 14 happened. Q. And what was that related to? 15 MR. CROWLEY: You sent --A. That was a contractor had not paid me for a job 16 THE WITNESS: Chris a new --17 in Sonoma. Solano Avenue was the name of it. That's the 17 MR. CROWLEY: -- an updated CV? 18 street the site was on, Solano Avenue. 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. I like to call it resume. Q. So this is basically a breach of contract case? 19 MR. CROWLEY: I was just going to see if A. Yes, right. And we finally settled and that 20 Chris --21 was it. But he was my attorney. 21 MR. BARTOLOTTA: This is the one we got that Q. When was that? 22 22 was attached to the --23 A. Seven years ago, eight years ago. MR. CROWLEY: Then I have the same one you 24 (Off the record.) 24 have. That's what I was going to look at. If we get 25 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Back on, 25 it --18 20 Q. How many times have you served as an expert THE WITNESS: Would you like me to e-mail you 2 witness? 2 the new one? Would that make any difference? A. I believe I answered that. I think about --MR. BARTOLOTTA: You can do it. Well, you can 4 oh, expert witness, not deposition. Three times, I 4 give it to Mr. Crowley and he can forward it to us. 5 believe. But that's in court. MR. CROWLEY: I'll ask Chris to send it to me. 5 Q. Three times that you've --6 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: A. I can only remember one occasion when I worked Q. So The McEdwards Group is what you've -- the 8 for Harding Lawson. There was this eminent domain 8 name you've been working under since 1995, correct? 9 dispute about Highway 80 going through a gravel pit, and 9 A. Yes. 10 I was the expert witness on how it affected the drainage 10 Q. Okay. Tell me about who else works at The 11 of this pits -- this wash water pits. And that was 7 --11 McEdwards Group besides you. 12 '80-something. A long time ago. A. Nobody else. I did have an employee once for 12 Q. So how many times have you testified in trial? 13 about six months. A. That one in Reno and the one with Chris when he Q. Didn't work out? 14 15 was my attorney. I'm sure there's another one, but I 15 A. Didn't work out. 16 just can't remember. 16 Q. Who was that employee or what was that MR. BARTOLOTTA: All right. So I'm going to 17 17 position? 18 mark next in order your CV. A. It was a groundwater sampler. It was easier to 19 (Deposition Exhibit No. 170 was 19 do it myself than tell him how to do it. marked for identification.) Q. Okay. And in terms of the work that you've 20 21 been doing since 1995, has that all been out of Willits? 21 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: A. No. I moved to Willits in '96 from Santa Rosa. 22 Q. So this was provided to us. If you could just 23 I had an office on B Street here in Santa Rosa. 23 take a brief look at it and tell me if it's a current Q. Since 1996, have you -- well, strike that. 24 24 copy of your CV or whether there's any additional work or 25 In terms of representative projects that you 25 articles or anything that aren't on here. 21

BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP CSD vs. CITY OF WILLITS

Deposition of Donald G. McEdwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014 1 have listed here --1 site. He's moved since. That was a big plume. A. Yes. 2 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 3 Q. -- can you explain to me your intent in putting Q. In terms of surface contaminants, how much work 4 those specific projects on your CV? 4 have you done as it relates to that? A. To provide a broad view of my experience. A. I can't recall. Oh, the most recent project Q. Is this a complete list of everything that 6 was they took a tank out in Cleone, a residential house, 7 you've done in terms of projects? 7 and they replaced it with an above-ground fiberglass tank 8 that they filled with heating oil, but it rained and the A. As I said before, this thing is -- this resume 9 is 15 years old as far as the number of projects I've 9 water displaced it and it fell on the ground. So that's 10 a current project. 10 done. Q. Okay. And even being 15 years old, is this Q. Okay. How much of your work as a 12 just a representative sample of projects that you had 12 hydrogeologist has been involved with municipal sewer 13 worked on or was it --13 systems? 14 A. Yes. 14 A. Just this one and the one in Covelo. Q. And that was the consulting work that you'd 15 -- as of 15 years ago, was this a complete 15 16 list? 16 done for Chris Neary that we discussed before? 17 A. This is not a complete list as of 15 years ago. 17 A. That's correct. 18 These are the highlights. Most of my work since the Q. And that was basically limited to an interview 18 19 preparation of this has been in underground tank sites. 19 of the operator and participation in some meetings? Q. Okay. So why don't you explain to me what the 20 A. Yes. 21 scope of work is that you do as a geohydrologist --21 MR. BARTOLOTTA: I'm going to take one second. 22 hydrogeologist? 22 (Break taken from 10:35 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.) 23 A. I investigate and remediate groundwater and 23 THE WITNESS: I have another comment on surface 24 soil contamination caused by leaks from underground 24 spills. 25 storage tanks or septic tanks or surface spills. 25 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 22 Q. So that was underground storage tanks, Yes. 1 Q. 2 2 septic --A. Chris Neary got me involved in the Ukiah Depot. 3 3 A. Yes. Q. Okay. Q. -- tanks or surface spills? A. And Westin Associates, I think is the name. 5 A. Of contaminants. 5 They had a work plan that I modified and got approved, Q. What percentage of the work that you do is 6 and so we're in the final throes of finishing that site. 6 7 related to consulting work related to underground tanks? 7 Removal of contaminated soil after sampling. A. Probably 90 percent. It's dropping off now. Q. What was the contaminant in that case? 8 9 The sites close -- the State is closing a lot of sites. 9 A. Polyaromatic hydrocarbons, PAHs, and diesel. Q. And underground tanks, I assume, is everything Out of the panoply of contaminants they looked 10 11 from old gas stations to old heating oil tanks? 11 at, those are the two they decided were important. A. Those are the primary classes, the leaking Q. Okay. In terms of either what's listed on your 13 residential fuel tank and then the commercial mom and pop 13 CV or work that you've done, have you in the past done --14 store or commercial gas station with leaking tanks. Q. Are you involved with the one over here on the 15 about, have you ever worked on a project where you were 16 end of B Street by chance?

14 other than this case and the Covelo issue that we talked

16 involved in the assessment of a city's sewer collection

17 system, or municipalities, doesn't matter?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Have you ever had a project where you were

20 involved in the construction analysis assessment of a

21 wastewater ponding system?

A. To the extent you can call surface water runoff

23 water that needs to be treated or contained, yes, I

24 designed a system for that junkyard in Ukiah, T & T.

Q. In terms of the capacity of -- in other

23

25

24

A. Which one was that?

A. No, I'm not.

19 ongoing project. Apparently that's a tank.

MR. CROWLEY: That's PG&E.

MR. BARTOLOTTA: Is that PG&E?

Q. It's by the Perry firm. Right next to it is an

Q. And right behind it is Santa Rosa Creek.

MR. CROWLEY: That was a PG&E tank --

THE WITNESS: I was involved in the Occhipinti

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- 1 words -- well, why don't you tell me what that project
- 2 was. What did you eventually design for them?
- B A. It was a big concrete containment structure.
- 4 I'm guessing it was maybe 600 to 1,000 gallons capacity
- 5 to catch the excess runoff before -- so it wouldn't run
- 6 off into the creek and it could get metered out and have 7 all the debris settle out.
- 8 Q. So other than that system for the junkyard,
- 9 have you ever done assessment analysis of a wastewater
- 10 ponding system?
- 11 A. No. As you said, except for these projects.
- 12 Q. Have you ever done a project design analysis of
- 13 a wastewater disposal plant's capacity?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Ever -- other than this case and the Covelo,
- 16 have you -- well, strike that.
- 17 So what was your understanding of your
- 18 assignment when Mr. Neary first contacted you?
- 19 A. He heard from John Ford, who lives next to the
- 20 treatment plant grounds, that he wasn't getting
- 21 irrigation water he normally does. And this was after
- 22 the wetlands were completed and the new plant in Willits.
- 23 So I had a discussion with Chris over this, and he
- 24 suggested I visit the plant and see what the thing looks
- 25 like.

- 1 A. He didn't say "Identify sources of leakage."
- 2 "Go out and look at the operation. Tell me what you
- 3 find."
- 4 Q. And did he give you any documents at that time?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Do you have a recollection of this first
- 7 interaction with Chris Neary as to whether this was a
- 8 meeting in person or over the phone?
- 9 A. It was in person.
 - Q. At his office?
- 11 A. Yes.

10

- 12 Q. How long was that meeting?
- 13 A. Half an hour.
- 14 Q. Did you speak with John Ford?
- 15 A. No. I've never met John Ford.
- 16 Q. So what did you do in order to investigate what
- 17 Mr. Neary asked you to investigate?
- 8 A. I walked up the creek from East Commercial, or
- 19 I think it's Broaddus Creek, I think, the bridge over
- 20 Broaddus Creek. And I walked up there and then I kept
- 21 going until I was opposite -- or I thought I was opposite
- 22 of the enhanced wetlands in the creek and took some
- 23 photographs. And then I climbed out of the creek and
- 24 walked around the berm of the enhanced wetlands
- 25 structure.

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- 1 Q. Who's John Ford?
- 2 A. He's a neighbor to -- he has lands adjacent, I
- 3 believe, to the sewage treatment plant, and he was
- 4 provided irrigation water for his crops treated water.
- 5 Q. And directly from the plant?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. How much?
- 8 A. I don't know.
- 9 Q. And was there any explanation that Mr. Neary
- 10 provided to you as to why he believed there was a
- 11 reduction in irrigation water?
- 12 A. He told me that John Ford told him that the
- 13 ponds were leaking, the wetlands were leaking. That's
- 14 why there's no water storage to give to John.
- 5 Q. And was it your understanding that this
- 16 assignment was in relation to work Mr. Neary was doing
- 17 for John Ford or that he was doing for Brooktrails in
- 18 relation to this litigation?
- 19 A. I wasn't clear at the time who he was working
- 20 for. He just asked me to go out and look at the
- 21 situation, and later he told me he was working for
- 22 Brooktrails. That was his interest in it.
- 23 Q. So he specifically said, "I want you to go look
- 24 at the ponds to see if you can identify any sources of
- 25 leakage"?

- Q. Okay. And what time of year was this? When
- 2 was this? Is it on your bill?
- 3 A. Yes, it should be in there somewhere.
- 4 Q. Maybe that will help you give a timeline.
- 5 A. I have photographs on the disk I gave you.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. And they're time dated.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 A. So you can see that.
- 10 Q. Are those --
- 11 A. Here it is. That's 10/25/12.
- 12 Q. How long did you -- did it take for you to do
- 13 this walk up the creek and inspection?
- 14 A. It says three and a half hours on here.
- 15 Q. Okay. And so tell me exactly what you did.
- 16 You walked up the creek to the point where you were
- 17 adjacent to the wetlands and then you walked along the
- 18 berm?
- 19 A. Right. I saw where they had a stake and
- 20 there's a rope they climbed up the bank with, and so
- 21 that's how I got out, and that was next to the wetlands.
- 22 So I walked around the wetlands and took pictures.
- 23 O. Okav.
- 24 A. And I just noticed on my billing, I may have
- 25 missed a bill. I'm not sure. I thought I had it. I

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SIMSON REPORTING

1 think I made two trips to there because I don't remember A. I had the construction plans that Chris had 2 really, but the last item on my first bill I gave you 2 given me and from the photographs that I took of the 3 said on 10/30 I reviewed photos taken on 10/3/12. And 3 inside of the wetlands, there are three ponds in the 4 that's -- yeah, I'm mixing it up here. And that's when I 4 wetlands and there's a barrier, a smaller berm, that 5 walked up the creek and looked at the sample location 2 5 separates the three ponds, two berms, and I could see the 6 which was in the creek. But the pictures will speak for 6 water level on the weir structure going from one pond to 7 themselves as far as the photographs. 7 the next. So I took a picture along -- looking along Q. Okay. 8 that median berm and I was able to scale off the picture A. So I must have met with Chris before the 3rd 9 distances. 10 and didn't bill it. 10 Q. Did you actually physically measure anything? 11 Q. Okay. A. I measured the rungs. There's a structure A. Or maybe I have and I don't have the invoice. 12 there like a ladder you climb up to maintain the thing. 12 13 Q. When you say the 3rd, you're talking 13 And I believe I measured the distance between the rungs 14 October 3rd --14 and used that as the scale to get the depth of the water. Q. You understand that you were designated as an 15 A. Yes. Q. -- 2012? 16 16 expert witness in this case? A. Yes. 17 A. That's correct. 17 18 Q. What did you find on that initial inspection? 18 MR. BARTOLOTTA: We'll mark next in order A. Of what? Inspection of what? 19 19 Disclosure of Expert Witness with the date stamp received 20 by us of March 28th, 2014. 20 Q. The ponds, the wetlands. A. The wetlands? 21 21 (Deposition Exhibit No. 171 was 22 O. Yes. marked for identification.) 23 A. I found that the water level was maybe two feet 22 24 deep, and I did some -- two feet deep. And there was a 23 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 25 band of green vegetation growing approximately the same Q. If you turn to page No. 5, the number at the 30 25 bottom. 32 1 distance from the toe of the outside of the embankment A. Yes. 2 all around the ponds, which did not extend further, and 2 MR. CROWLEY: 5 and 6. 3 maybe a 20-foot band, maybe 15 feet away from the toe. 3 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: Q. At the very bottom of page No. 5, there's a Q. Okay. sentence that starts, "Dr. McEdwards is expected to A. And I lined myself up so I could look down the 6 axis of the embankment, like a truck would drive. And I 6 testify..." Do you see where I'm talking about? 7 could see the water on one side and I see the lush 7 A. There it is, yes. 8 vegetation at that time on the other side. It was about, 8 Q. Okay. "...is expected to testify as to 9 from what I could judge, maybe a foot difference between 9 10 the water level and the green. So it looks like the 10 the characteristics of the Willits 11 ponds were leaking because it looked like the green Wastewater Plant as designed and as 11 12 vegetation was getting moisture from the ponds. 12 constructed." Q. And what significance was that to you? A. Yes, that's what it says. 13 13 A. Water was going from the ponds to the green Q. Are you prepared to give those opinions today? 14 15 vegetation underneath the embankment. 15 A. As far as my knowledge permits, yes. 16 Q. And this was based upon your visual Q. Okay. What opinions do you have regarding the 17 observation? 17 design of the Willits Wastewater Plant as designed? And 18 A. Yes. 18 if it's helpful for you to do that -- you know, it says 19 Q. Did you do any testing to determine whether --19 "Willits Wastewater Plant as designed and as 20 A. No. I'm sorry. No. 20 constructed." I assume that there's a comparison that Q. Did you do any testing to determine whether 21 should occur between the design and the way it's 22 there was actual leaking? 22 constructed. So my question is, what opinions do you 23 have related to that sentence? 23 A. No. A. As -- I believe it was constructed as designed. 24 How did you determine that it was two feet Q. 25 I don't have any -- any opinion on that. If the question 25 deep? 31 33

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- 1 was, was it constructed as designed, I'd have to say it 2 was.
- 3 Q. Did you obtain -- were you provided with copies 4 of the design?
- 5 A. Yes, I was.
- 6 Q. And did you --
- A. Construction drawings, yes. 7
- Q. And did you have an opportunity to see the plan 9 and inspect it?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. And so basically, as far as you can tell,
- 12 design and construction are the same thing?
- 13 A. It was constructed as designed.
- Q. Okay. It then says -- I'm just breaking down
- 15 the commas in that sentence -- he's expected to testify
- 16 as to "the impact of inflow and infiltration." Do you
- 17 have opinions regarding the impact of inflow and
- 18 infiltration?
- A. I have to get specifically what you mean by 19
- 20 "infiltration."

2

12 of sewage.

21 correct?

24

15 the water to the plant?

23 water going into the plant.

Q. Okay.

- Q. Well, how do you define "infiltration"? 21
- A. Infiltration can be coming into the plant or
- 23 leaving the plant by infiltration.

3 infiltration leaving the plant?

6 infiltration entering the plant.

Q. Well, do you have opinions regarding the impact

Q. Do you have opinions regarding the impact of

Q. Okay. Let's start with your opinions regarding

A. The flow to the plant increases markedly — the

8 influent to the plant, volume, increases markedly during

9 rainy season, and the only cause I can think of for that

11 admitting groundwater into it and increasing the volume

Q. So in other words, this is actual rain runoff

14 flowing into the collection system which then transports

16 A. Rain runoff mediated by the rise -- causes the 17 rise in groundwater which then leaks into the pipes.

Q. At some point I want to get into details of

19 that, but I want to ask you -- I think what you provided

20 me was a summary of what your opinion would entail,

A. Yes, that's the impact of infiltration for

A. I have no other comment on that.

10 would be the sewer collection system leaking and

25 of infiltration going into the plant?

- Q. What about water coming out of the plant?
- A. Water coming out of the plant is less than
- 3 water coming into the plant on a volume basis. Water
- 4 coming into the plant is greater than water leaving the
- 5 plant based on the flow metering records maintained by 6 the City.
- Q. And what do you attribute that to? 7
- A. There appears to be two places in the plant
- 9 where water is lost by, quote, "infiltration" to the
- 10 ground. If you do a balance of inflow, that's the
- 11 influent coming in, metered influent, versus adding all
- 12 the sources of outflow, the metered outflow, you get a
- 13 large discrepancy in millions of gallons throughout the 14 year.
- 15 Q. And --
- A. I'm sorry; let me correct myself. You take
- 17 inflow coming into the headworks of the plant, metered,
- 18 and you subtract every month and you keep an accounting
- 19 of the water, metered, coming out of the treatment system
- 20 before it hits the wetlands or irrigation. There's a
- 21 disparity there of millions of gallons based on their
- 22 metering.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- That's one loss. 24 Α.
- 25 Q. Well, hold on.

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Somehow.

- 2 Q. Back up. Yes, so you're saying somehow there's
- 3 a loss because metered in doesn't match metered out?
- A. Correct.
- 5 Q. What is your opinion as to where that loss is 6 occurring?
- A. I think the surge ponds or equalization ponds
- 8 leak. I don't know where that water is going, but all I
- 9 know is if the metering is correct, there's a
- 10 discrepancy. It's more than a few percent.
- Q. Okay. That was number one.
- A. Correct. That was number one, infiltration 12
- 13 effects out-go. Number two is, if you take the metered
- 14 outflow from this treatment system and then you subtract
- 15 all the metered outflow for irrigation and -- from the
- 16 ponds or to the ponds -- no; I'm sorry. Let me rephrase
- 17 that. Outflow from irrigation, spray irrigation, and
- 18 discharge to the creek, you also get substantial
- 19 difference. Water is lost in that process somehow, and I
- 20 believe it's because it's leaking from the wetlands.
- Q. Okay. So we'll go back to that. Next it says 21
- 22 that you will give an opinion, quote, "regarding" --
- 23 well, regarding, quote, "...the operation of the Willits
- 24 Wastewater Treatment Plant in fact and as permitted."
- 25 What are your opinions with respect to that?

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- A. I'll have to go and talk about the variance
 they got for from the Groundwater Basin Plan where
 they were previously permitted to put discharge treated
 effluent into the creek at a ratio of 100 to 1. And they
 got a variance where they could put it by 10 to 1 in the
 creek during certain times well, when the volume of
 the creek was high. No. No. No. No. That's not
 correct. October through May 15th, I think. There's a
 certain time period they could do that.
- 9 certain time period they could do that.

 10 They got that variance by depending on the -11 let me back up. As part of the -- I believe as part of
 12 the agreement with the Water Board, they've reduced the
 13 contaminant in BOD and TDS from 30 milligrams per liter
 14 to 10 respectively, and they had to monitor for total
 15 nitrogen, which they weren't required to do before. And
 16 the document that was commissioned, I guess, that
- 17 described how the variance was a reasonable thing to do, 18 prepared by -- I forget the name of the consulting firm.
- 19 It wasn't SHN, it was someone else. They relied on the
- 20 residence time of water in the wetlands to reduce the
- 21 nitrogen content naturally as part of the treatment.
- Well, I don't think that happened much because
- 23 the wetlands leaked. And often the City would just take
- 24 the water from -- instead of going directly into the -- 25 it never went into the ponds, it went right into the
 - , ,

- Q. Okay. And what's the significance of that?
- 2 A. If the bases for the variance are not
- 3 fulfilled, then the variance is in question.
- 4 Q. Okay. And so okay. What did you do to 5 verify that?
- 6 A. I didn't do anything. I do note, though, that
- 7 five out of the seven months -- twelve months of 2013,
- 8 they had an exceedance of nitrogen they reported in their
- 9 self-monitoring reports during the wet months.
- 10 Q. Okay. Let me ask -- I guess my question is,
- 11 what documents did you review, what work did you do to
- 12 arrive at the opinion you arrived at?
- 13 A. There's a document on the disk I gave you that
- 14 Chris gave me that talked about -- that there was a
- 15 report in support of the variance. They did a bunch of
- 16 modeling and assumed a bunch of things, one of which, the
- 17 wetlands were not leaking and they were discharging from
- 18 the wetlands, not directly from the treatment plant.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. So that I reviewed. I reviewed the
- 21 self-monitoring reports put out by the City and found
- 22 that five of the twelve months they had excess nitrogen.
- 23 It's supposed to be 10 milligrams per liter; it's 22 or
- 24 24, in that range, every time.
 - 5 Q. And when was that? What were the dates of

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- 1 creek. So it never had a chance to ameliorate, let's
- 2 say, in the ponds. So the operation of the treatment
- 3 plant in fact, in that regard, does not operate as
- 4 permitted.
- 5 Q. Currently?
- 6 A. Currently.
- 7 Q. So is your opinion the Willits Wastewater
- 8 Treatment Plant as operated is not in compliance with the
- 9 permitted use?
- 10 A. It's not in compliance with the rationale in
- 11 the variance -- supporting the variance that they
- 12 received.
- 13 Q. Okay. When did they receive the variance?
- 14 A. I do not know.
- 15 Q. Have you seen the variance?
- 16 A. Yes, I have. I do not remember the date. But
- 17 I understand the variance was gotten before the plant
- 18 came into operation. And once it was in operation, it
- 19 permitted this 10-to-1 ratio.
- Q. Okay. So your opinion is the Willits
- 21 Wastewater Treatment Plant is, in fact, operating in a
- 22 manner that's not in compliance with the variance?
- 23 A. Not in compliance with the bases of the
- 24 variance -- the assumptions made in arguing for the
- 25 variance.

- 1 those --
- 2 A. August -- I believe it was July through
- 3 December.
- 4 Q. Of which year?
- 5 A. 2013.
- 6 Q. Okay. Next you're going to give opinions
- 7 regarding "...the hydrology of the Little Lake Valley
- 8 and" -- well, it just says that.
- 9 A. You want to talk about "as permitted" as well?
- 10 Q. I actually thought we just had.
- 11 A. We hadn't.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. "Operation of the Willits Plant in fact" --
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. -- "and as permitted."
- 16 Q. Right.
- 17 A. So as --
- 18 Q. So you're basically making a comparison between
- 19 the readings that were provided to you and what is
- 20 permitted?
- 21 A. Yes. I'm basing it on the Order.
- 22 Q. Okay. And we're going to go back to that. I
- 23 just want to cover your initial --
- 24 A. I can't. I have to bring the Order in to talk
- 25 about the operation of the plant as permitted.

39

Deposition of Donald G. M.	1cEdwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014
1 Q. Okay. We'll come back to it.	1 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
2 A. Okay.	2 Q. Okay. What's the significance of the fact that
3 Q. The only problem I have is that I haven't had a	3 the soil types are Yolo loam?
4 chance to see what you brought as documents yet	4 A. Well, I wanted in my water balance, I was
5 A. I have	5 trying to understand why so much water was lost and I
6 Q so	6 wanted to look at the type of soil. I also looked at the
7 MR. CROWLEY: Let him finish.	7 evaporation evapotranspiration rate.
8 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:	8 Q. And that would be the rate at which water
9 Q. So I will come back to that. Okay?	9 evaporates off the surface of the pools?
10 A. Fine.	10 A. Amended by the water lost by the plants.
11 Q. Next it says that you're going to provide	11 Q. Okay.
12 opinions regarding the Little Lake Valley "the	12 A. Okay. Transpiration is the plant loss of
13 hydrology of the Little Lake Valley." Do you know what	13 water. Evap is the water loss of water from the
14 opinions are expected to	14 surface.
15 A. No. The only opinion I could give is that I	15 Q. Okay.
16 understand that the wetlands were not lined nor I believe	16 A. And I have a reference on that on my first
17 was the soil compacted in them; that they relied on the	17 water balance spreadsheet.
18 clay-like material to impound the water.	18 Q. Okay.
19 Q. What's the Little Lake Valley?	19 A. And that's the extent of my hydrology of Little
20 A. It's an old old valley filled with water	20 Lake Valley.
21 from Outlet Creek.	21 Q. Okay. Next it says that you'll "express an
22 Q. And have you looked at any studies regarding	22 opinion as to whether the Willits Wastewater Treatment
23 the hydrogeology well, of the of the hydrology of	23 Plant constitutes overdesign." What is "overdesign"?
24 that valley?	24 A. Building something that is not necessary to
25 A. No, I have not, hydrology. I looked at what	25 handle the anticipated loads.
	42 44
1 the sail town is in the nalless	1 O And do you have an opinion about whather it's
1 the soil type is in the valley.	1 Q. And do you have an opinion about whether it's
2 Q. Okay.	2 overdesigned?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, l-o-a-m.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't.
 Q. Okay. A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. Q. Where was that information obtained from? 	2 overdesigned?3 A. No, I don't.4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this
 Q. Okay. A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. Q. Where was that information obtained from? A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 	 2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you
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2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information?	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes.
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam?	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes.
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No.
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive. 20 Q. Okay.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did?
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive. 20 Q. Okay. 21 MR. CROWLEY: When you say that, are you	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did? 19 A. Chris Neary.
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive. 20 Q. Okay.	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did? 19 A. Chris Neary. 20 Q. Okay. So Chris Neary — how did that get to
2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive. 20 Q. Okay. 21 MR. CROWLEY: When you say that, are you 22 talking about the source of the the source that you	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did? 19 A. Chris Neary. 20 Q. Okay. So Chris Neary — how did that get to 21 you?
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2 Q. Okay. 3 A. And it's a Yolo loam, I-o-a-m. 4 Q. Where was that information obtained from? 5 A. On the Internet and from a soil conservation 6 service book. 7 Q. And were either of those documents contained on 8 the 9 A. No, they're not. I didn't retain them. I just 10 looked on the Internet. 11 Q. Okay. What was the Internet site that you 12 would have gone to to obtain that information? 13 A. Google. 14 Q. And, I'm sorry, they were what kind of loam? 15 A. Yolo loam. I may have mentioned this, I'm not 16 sure, but when I first did my water balance, I think it 17 was in the footnote that you may have in your files. And 18 if it indeed is a footnote on my spreadsheet, you have 19 that in my thumb drive. 20 Q. Okay. 21 MR. CROWLEY: When you say that, are you 22 talking about the source of the the source that you 23 relied on? 24 THE WITNESS: Yes. I'm not sure though. I'm	2 overdesigned? 3 A. No, I don't. 4 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Now, attached to this 5 disclosure were a few documents that I wanted to ask you 6 about. One of them is a letter dated November 20th, 7 2012, from you to the City Manager, City of Willits. 8 (Deposition Exhibit No. 172 was marked for identification.) 9 10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 11 Q. Do you recognize this letter? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did you draft this letter? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Did you actually draft the description of the 16 categories of documents that you wanted to receive? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Who did? 19 A. Chris Neary. 20 Q. Okay. So Chris Neary — how did that get to 21 you? 22 A. He asked me to write a letter as a public 23 citizen to the City of Willits.

1 ponds.

Q. And then EFF-4?

1 and gave him this back and he approved it. Q. When you say he gave you a rough outline, how 3 did he give that to you? A. Basically the same informational points but 5 they were badly worded, to my view. Q. Right. Was it an e-mail to you? Was it a 7 letter that he had sent to you and then you then cut and 8 paste? Was it a hard letter that you then --A. It was an e-mail, I believe. 10 Q. And he gave you instructions to make a public 11 records request as a citizen to the City Manager of the 12 City of Willits asking for these documents? 13 A. Yes. Q. Okay. And did you receive documents responsive 15 to this request? 16 A. I received a CD with the images of the 17 documents on them. Q. Okay. And did you receive documents responsive 19 to each of the four categories listed in your letter? 20 A. Yes. Q. Okay. You requested all engineering reports 22 such as an irrigation management plan. Did you --A. I'm sorry. No, I did not get that one. 24 Q. You did not get an irrigation management plan? 25 A. No.

4 discharge to the creek, I believe, EFF-3. EFF-4 was 5 discharged to irrigation. Q. Okay. So I just want to back up a second so I 7 can get a better understanding of this. So you basically 8 have effluent coming into the plant? A. Correct. 10 Q. That effluent is -- what happens to it once it 11 enters the plant? A. It goes to the storage ponds, overflow ponds or 13 purge ponds or whatever, and that's metered into the 14 treatment system. Q. Okay. And once it's metered into the treatment 16 system, it's then treated? 17 A. Right. Q. Where does it go from there? 18 A. It goes either to -- it's metered as EFF-2 20 coming out of the treatment system. And from my 21 interpretation of the flow records and the same meter 22 readings, they sometimes took and directly put it into 23 the creek because the creek was high enough or they put 24 it into the ponds or they irrigated it. Q. Okay. So there were storage ponds? A. I'm sorry. Wetlands.

A. I'm sorry. Discharge from the ponds --

Q. Okay. Did you receive any engineering reports? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Did you receive any records, quote: "...indicating in any way the quantity 4 5 of flow for metered locations designated on the plans for the treatment facility approved 6 for construction as locations EFF-1, EFF-2, 7 8 EFF-3 and EFF-4"? 9 A. Yes. Q. Where did you -- did Mr. Neary advise you to

10 11 ask for those specific locations?

A. No. I advised him to ask for those if he

13 wanted to get a full record of what the in and out of the

14 treatment plant is.

Q. What does "EFF" stand for? 15

A. That's effluent 1. And I believe that was a

17 mirroring situation for the old plant, because we wanted

18 to look at the old versus the new.

19 Q. And what's the difference between the flows for

20 EFF-1 versus EFF-2?

21 A. I think EFF-1 was the flow from the old

22 treatment system, the chlorination system, and EFF-2 is

23 the one from the new system that uses UV.

Q. Okay. What about EFF-3? 24

A. I believe that was the discharge from the

2 Q. Okay.

46

A. I'm calling the wetlands the ponds. Not the

4 receiving ponds, the wetlands.

Q. Yes, and I just want to make sure we're using

6 the same terminology as we move forward. So the effluent

7 comes into the plant and goes into ...?

A. The receiving ponds. 8

9 Q. Receiving pond. Okay. And is held there until

10 it goes into the treatment system?

A. That's correct. 11

12 Q. And then after it's been treated, it goes into

13 one of three places: Irrigation, the creek, or basically

14 another storage pond of treated water?

15 A. The enhanced wetlands.

16 Q. The enhanced wetlands. Okay. And in terms of

17 the initial work that you did when you walked up the

18 creek, you were looking at the enhanced wetlands?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Okay. Did you look at the storage ponds?

21

22 Q. Have you looked at the storage ponds?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. When did you do that?

25 A. Six -- six or four months ago when Chris asked

47

49

48

SIMSON REPORTING

Deposition of Donald G. McE	dwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014
1 me to go and take pictures of the improvements according	1 A. Well, the first top page is dated May 2010,
2 to the plans.	2 and the plant the last record I have of the old plant
3 Q. Okay. You next ask for:	3 is May 2011.
4 "All effluent monitoring data for	4 Q. This first page of Exhibit 173, was this
5 the treatment facility as maintained by	5 created by you?
6 the City of Willits treatment facility for	6 A. No.
7 internal purposes from May 2010 through	7 Q. Who was it created by?
8 October 1st, 2012."	8 A. The personnel at the Willits Wastewater
9 Did you receive those documents?	9 Treatment Plant.
10 A. No. I couldn't identify if it was internal	10 Q. Okay. Is this the format that you received
11 purposes or just self-monitoring. All I got was the	11 this information in?
12 self–monitoring reports.	12 A. Yes.
13 Q. What's the difference between internal and	13 Q. Okay. Had you were you familiar with this
14 self-monitoring?	14 format of reporting?
15 A. I don't know. I've never seen the internal	15 A. Not before I got them, no. It's a simple Excel
16 internal data, if there is any.	16 spreadsheet, so, yes, I'm familiar with Excel
17 Q. Okay. So I guess my question is, what's the	17 spreadsheets.
18 distinction you make between internal and	18 These are copies of mine because there's my
19 self-monitoring?	19 writing is on here, so I have them duplicated here. Yes,
20 A. I don't, but they may. I didn't know.	20 these are the data let's see how far it goes
21 Q. So you're saying that you weren't certain	21 through May 12th, it looks like.
22 whether they kept internal monitoring that might be	22 Q. Okay. So
23 different than the self– — I'm sorry, the internal might	23 A. I'm sorry; May '12. 5/12, yeah. And that
24 be different than the self-monitoring; you didn't	24 and I believe that the plant started operation in June of
25 actually know if that existed or not?	25 '11, so I have to do I have the metered data through
50	52
1 A. That's correct, yes.	1 May of 2012 in the document you gave me.
2 Q. But you asked for it?	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll
Q. But you asked for it?A. In case it did.	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets
Q. But you asked for it?A. In case it did.Q. Did you get anything?	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets
 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which
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 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. Q. Number 4: "All effluent monitoring data for the 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010."
 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. Q. Number 4: "All effluent monitoring data for the treatment facility submitted by the City 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes.
 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. Q. Number 4: "All effluent monitoring data for the treatment facility submitted by the City of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you?
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board."	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No.
 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. Q. Number 4: "All effluent monitoring data for the treatment facility submitted by the City of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board." Did you receive anything responsive to that? 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the
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 Q. But you asked for it? A. In case it did. Q. Did you get anything? A. No. Q. Number 4: "All effluent monitoring data for the treatment facility submitted by the City of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board." Did you receive anything responsive to that? A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. That's kind of redundant. MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next in order, mark this. (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes.
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 19 Q. Exhibit 173, which was attached to your or	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference 20 between these two documents?
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 19 Q. Exhibit 173, which was attached to your or 20 the designation of experts. Can you tell me what this	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference 20 between these two documents? 21 A. I've got to look at them again. I believe they
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 19 Q. Exhibit 173, which was attached to your or 20 the designation of experts. Can you tell me what this 21 is?	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference 20 between these two documents? 21 A. I've got to look at them again. I believe they 22 just — they just repeat the same data in a tabular form.
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 19 Q. Exhibit 173, which was attached to your or 20 the designation of experts. Can you tell me what this 21 is? 22 A. That let me look at my file. I believe	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference 20 between these two documents? 21 A. I've got to look at them again. I believe they 22 just — they just repeat the same data in a tabular form. 23 Q. Okay. Let's look at the first page for May
2 Q. But you asked for it? 3 A. In case it did. 4 Q. Did you get anything? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Number 4: 7 "All effluent monitoring data for the 8 treatment facility submitted by the City 9 of Willits to the North Coast Regional Water 10 Quality Control Board." 11 Did you receive anything responsive to that? 12 A. Yes, because that would be EF-3 and EF-4. 13 That's kind of redundant. 14 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So then attached next 15 in order, mark this. 16 (Deposition Exhibit No. 173 was marked for identification.) 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 19 Q. Exhibit 173, which was attached to your or 20 the designation of experts. Can you tell me what this 21 is? 22 A. That let me look at my file. I believe 23 these are the influent and meter readings essentially for	2 Q. Okay. So with respect to this document, I'll 3 represent to you that there are Excel spreadsheets 4 similar to page 1 and then there are other spreadsheets 5 similar to page 2, similar — the page 2 on here, which 6 is — says "City of Willits" and then "(90092) Monitoring 7 Report for the Month of May 2010." 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Was this document created by you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Okay. So both the page 1 spreadsheet and the 12 second page spreadsheet were documents — these are hard 13 copies that you received from the City of Willits? 14 A. Yes. No. They were not hard copies. They 15 were on a disk. I printed them out. 16 Q. Okay. But they were basically documents you 17 printed directly from the disk? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And what's your understanding of the difference 20 between these two documents? 21 A. I've got to look at them again. I believe they 22 just — they just repeat the same data in a tabular form. 23 Q. Okay. Let's look at the first page for May 24 2010. In looking at the column headings, it says,

- 1 that means?
- A. That is a flow meter that measures the number
- 3 of gallons of flow that flows past it, like an odometer.
- Q. And then it says, "Influent Flow, MGD"?
- A. That means "million gallons a day." 5
- Q. Okay. Next column says, "RAS Totalizer." What
- 7 does "RAS" stand for?
- A. I think it means "Return Activated Sludge."
- Q. And then it says "RAS Flow, MGD"? 9
- A. Yeah, that's just millions gallons of day of 10
- 11 return activated sludge, recycling the sludge.
- Q. And what is "sludge"?
- A. It's the stuff that gathers on the bottom of 13
- 14 your clarification ponds, your treatment ponds.
- Q. And then next is "WAS Totalizer."
- A. That's "Waste Activated Sludge." 16
- Q. And then "Effluent Totalizer." 17
- A. I believe that's the measure of the treated
- 19 water coming out of the treatment plant.
- Q. Okay. So, for example, if I was to look at
- 21 May 1st, 2010, there was 536848 gallons that went
- 22 through -- into the plant?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. Okay. Explain it to me.
- 25 A. That is the meter reading on May 1st before

- 1 that creek flow number.
- Q. Okay. Did you receive any other data from the
- 3 City of Willits regarding the sewer plant operations that
- 4 were provided to you by the City of Willits as opposed to
- 5 Mr. Neary?
- A. Yes. I wrote another letter requesting more 7 information.
- Q. Okay. And what did you get? 8
- A. And I believe I got the -- from -- I've
- 10 forgotten exactly what I got, but I got enough to
- 11 complete the entire record to December of 2013.
- 12 Q. Okay. And is that what you're holding?
- A. Yes. 13
- Q. Do you know why the format is so different? 14
- 15 A. Different than what?
- 16 Q. Than page 1 of Exhibit 173.
- A. Well, these are just the reporting of their 17
- 18 meter readings for one month. That's the spreadsheet
- 19 showing -- taking this data for all the months of record
- 20 that I had and computing the actual average million
- 21 gallons a day, turn that into million gallons a month by
- 22 multiplying that figure by the number of days in a month
- 23 and doing that for the influent, the effluent of the
- 24 treatment plant, the flow to the creek and the flow out
- 25 to the irrigation.

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- 1 anything went into the plant.
- Q. Oh, I see. And then what's the next day?
- A. Day 2 is a higher number, so you have an
- 4 additional number of gallons going past that point.
- Q. So it actually increases with each passing day?
- A. That's right. And the influent flow numbers,
- 7 you get in million gallons a day. Like for instance, the
- 8 1.76, you take the second day's reading, 538612, subtract
- 9 it from 536848 and you divide by 1,000 and you get 1.76
- 10 as your million gallons a day -- I'm sorry, divide it,
- 11 yeah. I think these meters are in thousands of gallons,
- 12 I believe.
- Q. Okay. And then if we go over, there's an 13
- 14 "Irrigation" column.
- A. Correct.
- Q. And that would be the flow that is going out to 16
- 17 an irrigation system?
- A. Correct.
- 19 Q. And then there's "Creek Height" and "Creek
- 20 Flow," correct?
- A. Yes, they have a hydrograph for the depth of
- 22 water in the creek. I think that's what they mean by
- 23 "creek height." You have a certain flow for that
- 24 profile, and so the higher the creek height, the larger
- 25 the flow. And then they just go to that chart and record

- Okay.
- 2 A. And niggling the numbers to come up with the
- 3 differences.
- MR. CROWLEY: Did you create the document?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, I did. I made that.
- 6 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
- 7 Q. So this is your work?
- A. Yes, it is. 8
- 9 MR. CROWLEY: I thought that there may have
- 10 been some confusion as to whether he got that from the
- 11 City of Willits.
- 12 THE WITNESS: No.
- 13 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
- Q. And this other page, is this a continuation or
- 15 is it the same thing?
- A. Another copy just marked up.
- Q. Okay. I'll tell you what. Why don't you give 17
- 18 me your marked-up copy and I'm going to go make copies of
- 19 it and I'll give you the original back.
- A. Just make sure it's the same copy. Do you have
- 21 a 141 down at the bottom there in bold?
- 22
- 23 A. You're right. This is the one you want. I'll
- 24 explain the difference. That's the one you want.
- Q. Why don't you give us both.

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SIMSON REPORTING

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A. This doesn't make sense because I tried a trick 1 page, I believe. Maybe I -- yes. There's a better 2 here and I've got to explain that to you. 2 number, 1.525. I think I took that average. MR. BARTOLOTTA: Well, I'd love to talk to you Q. I'm sorry. Say that again. They only have it as two decimal places, 1.52. 4 about a trick. 5 THE WITNESS: All right. 5 Q. Okay. 6 A. And I actually averaged it and got 1.525. 6 (Off the record.) Q. Okay. Then you multiplied that by the number 7 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So let's talk about 7 8 of days in the month? 8 these in the order that I have them right now. I'm going 9 to mark them first -- why don't we go ahead and mark this 9 A. Right. 10 first one. 10 And come up with the millions of gallons per Q. (Deposition Exhibit No. 174 was 11 month? 11 marked for identification.) 12 A. Right. 12 13 Q. Okay. 13 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 14 A. And I did that for the influent. That's the Q. We're looking at Exhibit 171. I'm going to 15 first two columns, average millions gallons per month. 16 Effluent from the old and new plants, the next two 15 mark them 171-A, B --17 columns. And then they have "Discharge to the Creek" 16 A. Is that A? 18 from October -- "01 October to May 14th" from their meter 17 Q. Yes. A. What's B? 19 readings for creek irrigation, EF-3 I think it is. And 18 20 the same technique, average million gallons a day and Q. Don't get so excited here. C is the back of 20 one of these pages. 21 million gallons a month. Next column, "Discharge to Irrigation" 22 21 A. Oh. 22 Q. And then D. Okay. So explain what Exhibit 174 23 permitted fifteen days for October or when appropriate. 24 Same thing. And then the rest of the spreadsheet beyond 23 is to me. A. It's 174, not 171? 25 that to the right are computed numbers based on the 24 25 O. Correct. 60 58 1 foregoing million gallons a month columns. A. I wrote it down 171. D -- it's best to start 2 there -- is just the accounting of the influent/effluent And so I wanted to find out how much of 3 material went into the ponds. So what I did, even though 3 from the treatment system from May '10 to May '11, the 4 effluent, EF-1 is from the old plant and then in June of 4 I could tell by the meter readings that the water went 5 '11 it goes to EF-2 which is from the new plant. 5 from the treatment system, exited from the treatment Q. Okay. 6 system directly into the stream, I wanted to make sure I 6 7 didn't lose anything. I wanted to account for that. So A. But the influent, the first column, the date 8 column is the influent of the plant. 8 I routed it to the ponds and then I immediately took it 9 out of the ponds to show it went -- let's say from the Q. Okay. 9 10 ponds, for instance -- for instance, on 6/11, because A. And then each meter reading, the influent, for 11 that's -- I didn't do that for the existing plant because 11 instance, has the average million gallons per day per 12 date. 12 the ponds weren't there. So you go to the line 6/11 when 13 wetland ponds began operation in June '11. Discharge to 13 Q. Okay. 14 irrigation in that month was 30 million gallons a month, A. And then the next column is million gallons a 15 month for that month. And that's gotten by taking the 15 so I said I'm going to put all that into ponds and I'm 16 average million gallons a day for that month times the 16 going to take it out of the ponds. 17 number of days in the month. 17 Q. Okay. Q. So if I'm looking at Exhibit 173 --A. Okay. And so I have nothing in the ponds. 18 19 Cumulative ponds is zero for that month. 19 A. Yes. Q. -- you took this number here, 1 point --20 Q. All right. 20 A. Same with the next month, July, August. 24 for 21 A. They have an average number at the bottom of 21 22 July went into the ponds, came out of the ponds. 22 the page. Q. Okay. So you took the average, which was 1.52, 23 O. Okav. 23 24 for the month of May 2010? A. August, 20 went -- was irrigation that went 25 into the ponds, come -- went to the ponds, came out of A. Well, I actually used the number on the second 59 61

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- 1 the ponds.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. And then same thing happened through October.
- 4 So November.
- 5 Q. You skipped to November 2011?
- 6 A. Yeah, they can't discharge to irrigation
- 7 because only to September. So I have EFF-2 is 21, put
- 8 that on the fourth column under the EF-1, EF-2.
- 9 Q. I'm sorry; you're looking at November or
- 10 October?
- 11 A. This last column, November. The white space
- 12 below irrigation, "discharge to irrigation," the first
- 13 white space (indicating). Right here.
- 14 Q. Yeah, that's October, not November.
- 15 A. I better go with a straight line too. There we
- 16 go. Okay. I was cockeyed. We want October.
- 17 Q. Okay. I'm looking at October.
- 18 A. So we have 21 million gallons coming out of the
- 19 treatment system.
- 20 Q. Correct.
- 21 A. And we have 21 million gallons going to the
- 22 pond.
- 23 Q. All right.
- 24 A. Because there is no discharge to creek and
- 25 there's no irrigation.

- 1 A. So the storage in the ponds did not increase by
- 2 25, it increased the difference between 25 and 17, so it
- 3 now holds 67 million gallons.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. And I did the same thing -- and then in
- 6 February 2012, 35 million gallons from the treatment
- 7 system, 35 million is in the ponds, 35 million is out of
- 8 the ponds, the ponds remain unchanged because the 35
- 9 million went to discharge to the creek.
- 10 Q. Right.
- 11 A. And you go to 3,000 -- I'm sorry; where am I?
- 12 March, 30 million gallons from the treatment system, 30
- 13 million into the ponds, 70 out of the ponds because the
- 14 discharge to creek was 70.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. So what's remaining in the ponds is 26.
- 17 Q. Right.
- 18 A. And then April is the same thing; 60 comes out
- 19 of the treatment system, 60 goes into the ponds, out of
- 20 the ponds by discharge to the creek and they still have
- 21 26.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. That's the whole sequence of this thing going
- 24 down. I did the same thing for irrigation, instead of
- 25 when irrigation starts, then they irrigate.

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- 1 O Okav
- 2 A. The only place it can go is the pond.
- 3 O. Okav
- 4 A. So now I have 21 million gallons in the
- 5 ponds --
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. as of the end of that month. And then we go
- 8 to November of 2011, we have 22 million gallons coming
- 9 out of the treatment system. It can only go to the
- 10 ponds. It didn't go anywhere else that I could see, so
- 11 we've added 21 and 22 and got 43 million gallons in the 12 ponds.
- 13 Q. All right. Same --
- 14 A. Same thing happens in December.
- 15 O. Right
- 16 A. And 15 more million to the ponds.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. And then in January, the creek is high enough,
- 19 we've got 25 million gallons coming out of the treatment
- 20 plant. And then I'm assuming that -- I want to make sure
- 21 I have the accounting of ponds correctly, so I say let's
- 22 put 25 million gallons into the ponds, take 17 out
- 23 because that's what was lost by irrigation, according to
- 24 the -- discharge to creek, excuse me, right?
- 25 Q. Right.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- 2 A. But I always route it into the ponds first so I
- 3 don't lose track of what goes into the ponds. It makes
- 4 sense, the accounting is correct, so I didn't lose what
- 5 goes into the ponds.
- 6 Q. So by the end of this December 2013, there's
- 7 141 million gallons in the ponds?
- 8 A. That's by my accounting that should have been
- 9 in the ponds.
- 10 Q. Okay. Was it --
- 11 A. No, because the ponds only hold 87 million
- 12 gallons.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. Total. That's full. They're only permitted to
- 15 have half of that capacity.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. So where did the water go? I can't think of
- 18 any place but leakage.
- 19 Q. Okay. Is there a possibility that the meters
- 20 are incorrect?
- 21 A. Sure.
- 22 Q. Okay. Did you do anything to determine whether
- 23 the metering information that you obtained was accurate
- 24 metering information?
- 25 A. No.

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- Q. What would you need to do to do that?
- A. Have an expert. I'm not an expert in metering.
- 3 Have an expert and check the meters by another method and
- 4 make sure they're correct.
- Q. So you're assuming that the information
- 6 provided from Willits regarding the amount measured by
- 7 the meters is accurate?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. And so in terms of the leakage, this is leakage
- 10 that would have been from the storage ponds after
- 11 treatment; in other words, the wetlands?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. Did you see anything upon your visual 13
- 14 inspection of the wetlands that would indicate leakage?
- A. Yes, as I mentioned before, that aura of greens
- 16 were outside a 20-foot perimeter, let's say.
- Q. Let's say --17
- A. All around it. 18
- Q. And you have photographs of that which have 19
- 20 been provided to me?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. Okay. Any other evidence other than the
- 23 increased growth in the vegetation?
- 24 A. The low levels in the pond. Every time I
- 25 visited, it was really low.

- 1 case? Have you reviewed --
- A. I'm sorry; reviewed the what? 2
- Q. Pleadings. Have you reviewed the First Amended
- 4 Brooktrails Township Cross-Complaint to the City of
- 5 Willits First Amended Cross-Complaint?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- 7 Q. Okay. So I believe one of your opinions stated
- 8 was that there is an increase during rainy season because
- 9 of rising groundwater and that this increased the
- 10 infiltration of the amount of water going into the
- 11 system?
- A. Into the sewage collection pipes. 12
- Q. Okay. What's the basis for that opinion? 13
- 14 A. No other possibility.
- Q. You've eliminated all other possibilities? 15
- 16 A. I can't think of any other possibility.
- 17 Q. Okay. Have you obtained documents regarding
- 18 the City of Willits' collection system?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Did you ask for any?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Why not?
- 23 A. I wasn't asked to. It wasn't my charge.
- 24 Q. Well, first of all, why were you asked to
- 25 look -- were you asked to look as to whether there was

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- Q. And so in terms of leakage, did you see places
- 2 where there was any kind of break in berms or anything
- 3 physical like that?
- 4 A. No.
- Q. So in terms of leakage, have you drawn any
- 6 conclusions as to whether this is leakage that's
- 7 occurring from the bottom of the pond because of
- 8 inadequate compaction or lining versus some other
- 9 physical defect in the ponds?
- 10 A. I hadn't thought about the difference between
- 11 through the embankment and through the bottom of the
- 12 ponds until just now, but I do have an opinion on that.
- Q. What is your opinion? 13
- A. The embankment must have been compacted to 14
- 15 engineering standard. You could not put uncompacted fill
- 16 in the pond. You have to compact them, and that would
- 17 reduce permeability. But the bottom of the ponds, as far
- 18 as I understand it looking at the construction drawings,
- 19 were not compacted or lined.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. So whatever that soil is, and I think it's Yolo
- 22 loam, would be the permeability -- it would have the
- 23 permeability of Yolo loam, which is the silt/sand
- 24 mixture, not a clay.
- Q. Have you reviewed any of the pleadings in this

- 1 infiltration in the Willits' collection system?
- A. No, I was not.
- Q. Were you asked to look at the collection system
- 4 for Brooktrails?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. Have you obtained any information regarding the 6
- collection system for Brooktrails?
- 9 Q. And when I say "collection system," I'm talking
- 10 about the system of sewer pipes that exists under each of
- 11 these municipalities. You understand that?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. What information do you have about the current 13
- 14 condition of Willits' collection system?
- 15 A. None.
- 16 Q. Do you know how old it is?
- A. Let me rephrase that. I have flow information, 17
- 18 effluent coming into the plant during the rainy season,
- 19 which is often three to four times what it is in the dry
- 20 season. The only mechanism I can think of to cause that
- 21 rise would be more water coming into the pipes, and the
- 22 only reason only place I can see that coming from is
- 23 groundwater leaking into the pipes. And in the rainy
- 24 season, groundwater is high.
 - Q. Okay. In terms of a data point in support of

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- 1 your opinion, you have inflow into the system during
- 2 rainy season and inflow during dry season?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Do you have any other data points that you are
- 5 using to arrive at that opinion?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. And is the inflow data that you have
- 8 distinguished between inflow coming from Willits versus
- 9 inflow coming from Brooktrails?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. So it's inflow from both Brooktrails and
- 12 Willits?
- 13 A. That's my understanding.
- 14 Q. And what have you done to eliminate the
- 15 possibility that the Brooktrails' collection system is
- 16 resulting in the increase of inflows?
- 17 A. I was asked to review the Brooktrails metered
- 18 flow. They have their own meter.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. And verify there's a certain percentage of the
- 21 total flow, so I know they have their own meter to
- 22 measure their own effluent, let's call it. And Chris
- 23 Neary tells me that they increase their flow in the
- 24 winter months from, I don't know, 100 million gallons --
- 25 I don't know what it is, but it's twice or three times

- 1 didn't make -- I didn't -- I know it's there essentially.
- 2 Q. Okay. And these are meter readings for
- 3 basically a one-year period? Well, one year and one
- 4 month. It goes from January 1st to January 1st. Do you
- 5 know what year this is? It says 2013, but do you know if
- 6 that's actually 2013?
- 7 A. No, I do not know.
- 8 Q. Do you know -- have you compared the
- 9 information in -- Exhibit 155 to the deposition of Thomas
- 10 Mannatt, M-a-n-n-a-t-t, have you compared this
- 11 information to the meter readings that you had from
- 12 Willits?
- 13 A. You mean the Brooktrails reading and this
- 14 document?
- 15 Q. Yes.
- 16 A. No, I have not.
- 17 Q. Do you know what the rainfall totals were for
- 18 the time period reflected in Exhibit 155 for this
- 19 deposition?
- 20 A. No, I do not.
- 21 Q. Do you actually have the meter data from
- 22 Willits for 2013?
- 23 A. Yes
- 24 Q. And in terms of your analysis of the
- 25 infiltration that's occurring from the Willits'

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- 1 what it is in the dry months.
- 2 Q. What documentation?
- A. I don't have any of that. He just told me.
- 4 Q. What information do you have to verify the
- 5 information that Chris Neary told you?
- 6 A. None.
- 7 Q. What information do you have as documentation
- 8 to verify the outflows from Brooktrails metering?
- 9 A. Chris gave me a copy of the deposition of
- 10 Thomas Mannatt and the Order and a bunch of other
- 11 documents to review, and one of those is Brooktrails
- 12 meter readings on tab 155, one page. I have not looked
- 13 at that. It's just there.
- 14 Q. I'm sorry; what do you mean you have not looked
- 15 at this?
- 16 A. I have not looked at that and computed the
- 17 flows compared to the flows data I got from Willits, but
- 18 I have reviewed --
- 19 Q. Well, so let me ask you, do you know whether
- 20 these flows show an increase of three to four times --
- 21 A. No, I have not looked at them.
- 22 Q. Why not?
- 23 A. I wasn't asked to.
- 24 Q. Well, you were given the whole deposition?
- 25 A. Yes, that's true. And I looked at that, but I

- 1 collection system, did it include 2013 data?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. So in terms of the ability to compare
- 4 information between Brooktrails' metering system and the
- 5 metering -- well, strike that.
- 6 Do you actually have data of Willits' metering
- 7 system?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So coming from -- in other words, from Willits
- 10 itself as opposed to --
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Okay. That's what I'm trying to figure out.
- 13 So basically what you could do is you could look at the
- 14 inflows into the plant, subtract out what Brooktrails
- 15 says it's metering and then determine what Willits'
- 16 inflow is?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Is there any other source of inflow other than
- 19 Brooktrails and Willits?
- 20 A. No, not to my knowledge.
- 21 Q. But you have yet to actually compare and
- 22 subtract out the Brooktrails' metering from the 2013
- 23 inflow data for the plant?
- 24 A. That's correct. Solely for Willits residents
- 25 you're saying? Yes, I have not done that.

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- Okay. Do you have that in front of you?
- 2 A. Have what in front of me?
- 3 O. The inflow data from -- for 2013?
- 4 A. That the City provided their data?
- 5 Q. Correct.
- A. Where would I find that? Is that already 6
- 7 marked?
- Q. Is it on this sheet by chance? 8
- A. That's my compilation of it. That's not their 9 10 records.
- Q. Even if I'm using your compilation --11
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. In other words, I'm asking, does this include
- 14 all of 2013?
- 15 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. Okay. And before we move on, I wanted to ask
- 17 you, so the way I did this with Exhibit 174, I marked
- 18 them A through D. Can you tell me what A is? Maybe you
- 19 can -- this is page A. Why is this different than page 20 D?
- 21 A. I don't -- I have some calculations in pencil
- 22 on my copy that's Xeroxed on yours. I don't know what
- 23 that is. I forgot what I did there. I can't comment on
- 24 that, but the only difference between the D and the A
- 25 exhibit in 174 is the column for cumulative ponds,

- 1 see if I understand it correctly. So Exhibit 174-A is
- 2 the same as D except for you have entered a number, 2.1,
- 3 which is under column "cumulative ponds"?
- A. Correct.
- 5 Q. And that this 2.1 is an amount that is lost in
- 6 the ponds on a monthly basis through evaporation,
- 7 transpiration and infiltration through leakage?
- A. That's correct. 8
- Q. And that's basically an assumption you made so
- 10 that you could see what the water levels would look like
- 11 with the assumption that amount was being lost?
- A. How the stored amount would change month to
- 13 month if it lost that much a month.
- 14 O. Okav. Got it. Now let's look at B. Is B
- 15 different?
- A. B is different in that I did not put a place to
- 17 store the number, the 2.1, in the spreadsheet. I just
- 18 changed it in the formula for the cumulative ponds and
- 19 ran the analysis.
- 20 Q. So --
- A. So it's embedded in the number. I do not know 21
- 22 what number I put in there.
- Q. Oh, okay. So if we look at A, you used 2.1; B
- 24 used a different number, but that's not reflected?
- A. Right. And it must have been a smaller number

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- 1 million gallons, on A there's a figure all by itself,
- 2 2.1.
- Q. Correct. 3
- 4 A. The top of the column, that is what I put the
- 5 value. What I was trying to do is see what the monthly
- 6 million gallons lost would be to make the final total in
- 7 December '13 come out to be around 100,000 gallons. So
- 8 this 2.1 is a figure I could change. And the spreadsheet 9 formula for the cumulative ponds in the column under
- 10 million gallons, it takes the formula in Exhibit D, the
- 11 figure in Exhibit D, and every month subtracts 2.1
- 12 million gallons.
- Q. So that 2.1 million is a compensation for 13
- 14 evaporation and transpiration?
- 15 A. Or infiltration. I wanted to see what the
- 16 infiltration had to be so that the total -- without going
- 17 too negative in the intervening months, given the data,
- 18 what it would have to be at a maximum to have 100 million
- 19 gallons left in the reservoir.
- 20 Q. And that would be --
- A. That was 2.1. And I could just -- by changing
- 22 this one number, it would change all the other numbers
- 23 immediately. I didn't have to reenter it. That's why
- 24 that's there.
- Q. Let me understand and repeat it back to you and

- 1 because what's left at the end of 12/13 is 123 million 2 gallons, not 99 on the 2.1.
- Q. Okay. These pencil marks that are over on the
- 4 column under MGM, what are those, if you recall?
- A. I don't recall.
- 6 Q. They look like the sum of the amounts
- 7 bracketed.
- A. Could have been. That's a good guess. I just 8
- 9 don't know.
- Q. Okay. C was actually on the back of your
- 11 original. I assume these are just some place where you
- 12 could actually make notations of data?
- A. I think that was the document number off the
- 14 disk that I was able to get the data for the months
- 15 shown.
- 16 Q. Got it. Okay. Other than this Exhibit 155
- 17 attached to Tom Mannatt's deposition --
- 18
- 19 -- do you have other Brooktrails' metering
- 20 data?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Okay. That's your copy.
- 23 Okay. So getting back to the issue regarding
- 24 infiltration from the Willits' system, you indicated that
- 25 basically the only way that you can -- the only source of

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- 1 the increase in inflows that you see would be a result of
- 2 problems with the collection system in the City of
- 3 Willits?
- A. Yes. 4
- 5 Q. Okay. And ---
- A. Or let's be fair. If Brooktrails leaks too,
- 7 because it's combined flow of Willits and Brooktrails, so
- 8 I would imagine both are contributing during the wet 9 season.
- 10 Q. What's the mechanics of how that would work?
- A. You've got cracks in the pipe or leaks in the
- 12 joints in the pipes. And normally if the water level is
- 13 below, you get seepage coming out of the pipe, not into 14 it.
- 15 O. Okav.
- A. And when water is higher than the pipe, it goes 16
- 17 into it.
- Q. How -- so what you're saying is that there's
- 19 actually a -- the level of the groundwater increases and
- 20 gets closer to the surface as there's precipitation?
- A. It rises above the elevation, call it, of the 21
- 22 pipe.
- 23 Q. Okay. And what evidence is there that the
- 24 groundwater level rises above the elevation of the sewer
- 25 pipes?

- Q. Okay. How many miles of sewer line make up the
- 2 Willits' collection system?
- A. I don't know.
- Q. What is generally -- I assume that these are
- 5 gravity fed collection systems?
- 6 A. I assume also.
- 7 Q. Okay. Do you have any information --
- A. I do not know anything about the construction
- 9 or characteristics or shape of the collection system.
- Q. Okay. Do you know anything about the 10
- 11 maintenance of the collection system?
- 12
- 13 Q. Do you know anything about the geographical
- 14 area that it covers?
- A. Only to know it serves the City and I know how
- 16 big the City is. It must go to the City limits, I would
- 17 assume.
- Q. What about Brooktrails, do you know about their
- 19 collection system?
- 20 A. No, I don't.
- Q. Do you know the geographical area that the 21
- 22 collection system of Brooktrails covers?
- 23 A. I don't know.
- 24 Q. In terms of the average elevation, does that
- 25 have any significance in terms of the level -- the height

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- A. I don't have any evidence. The pipes are eight
- 2 feet deep or something like that. And I've had several
- 3 monitoring projects where I have groundwater monitoring
- 4 wells in Willits and often the water is four feet deep
- 5 going to ground.
- Q. And what projects were those?
- A. Dave Rupe had a job at -- I forgot the address.
- 8 Dave Rupe -- can't think of his address, but he's on Main
- 9 Street in Willits.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- A. During -- I was asked, I think in -- I forgot
- 12 when this was, but sometime in the summer to check the
- 13 water levels.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- A. And all my sites had been closed, so I didn't
- 16 have any wells to check the water levels in. So I asked
- 17 the guys at the Willits Corporation Yard, I think it is,
- 18 next to the library, if I could just check water levels
- 19 in their wells. They were like six feet deep or
- 20 something like that. And then I also checked some wells
- 21 at the North Coast Railroad Authority site, railroad in
- 22 Willits on East Commercial, and those are about the same
- 23 level. This is -- I forget when this was, but it wasn't
- 24 in the rainy season. It was a little past the rainy
- 25 season.

- 1 of the groundwater during rainy or dry season?
- A. Average elevation of what?
- 3 Q. The land.
- A. Generally groundwater tends to be
- 5 subparallel -- elevation of the groundwater table tends
- 6 to be subparallel to the topography.
- Q. What's "subparallel" mean? 7
- A. It mirrors -- it's not exactly the same
- 9 distance, but it looks similar in shape to the overlying 10 topography.
- Q. Okay. So it would not have a significant
- 12 influence on the height of the groundwater?
- A. Let's say the depth of the groundwater. 13
- 14 Q. The depth of the groundwater?
- A. Yes, it will have some, but not a lot.
- Q. Okay. Do you know if it has any effect on --16
- 17 if it makes any difference in this situation?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. Do you know anything about the soil conditions
- 20 in and around the Willits' collection system and whether
- 21 those would contribute to infiltration?
- 22
- Q. Do you know anything about the soil conditions
- 24 in the Brooktrails' collection system and whether that
- 25 would affect infiltration?

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A. No, just inflow. A. No. 1 Q. Okay. Would that be information that could be 2 O. There's no documents? A. The amount of water predicted to flow, you 3 helpful to you to know? 4 know, the high flows and low flows, that's just the A. No. Q. Why not? 5 A. Because you're getting the overflow in the Q. Did you ever see any document or receive any 7 winter because the pipes are leaking. It doesn't matter 7 information that provided an explanation for those 8 what the transmissivity of the surrounding soils are. 8 increases in flows? Q. Okay. A. No. A. In my belief, they're leaking, so you fix them 10 10 Q. And so your opinion is that it must have come 11 and they won't leak, they won't admit water. 11 from a porous collection system because that's the only Q. So in terms of physical evidence of leaks in 12 thing that you can -- basically it's by process of 13 the collection system, you cannot necessarily make a 13 elimination is where you get to that opinion? A. It's the only thing I could think of that would 14 distinction between the Brooktrails system versus the 15 cause higher flows in the winter versus the dry period. 15 Willits system, correct? A. Correct. 16 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Could we take a break? Q. They both may be having this issue? 17 MR. CROWLEY: Do you want to take a lunch 17 A. I assume they both leak. 18 18 break? Q. Okay. Have you ever worked on a project where 19 (Lunch break taken from 12:06 p.m. to 1:04 p.m.) 20 you were assessing or evaluating the amount of leakage in 20 Afternoon Session MR. BARTOLOTTA: Back on the record. 21 a sewer collection system? 21 22 A. Yes. 22 Q. I kind of want to go back a bit just to make 23 sure I understand what you're giving opinions about and 23 O. When was that? 24 A. It was a new technique out. They use an 24 what you're not giving opinions about. And I'm not -- I 25 don't want to review the designation again, but I 25 electronic method to actually scan for leaks, and I was 82 1 present during a demonstration of this. 1 understand that your first opinion was that the facility 2 was constructed as designed? Q. Okay. In Mill Valley, I think it was. A. It appears to be, yeah, from what I can see. Q. They would have that in Mill Valley, wouldn't Q. You're not giving an opinion as to whether 5 there was an overdesign of the system? 5 they? A. They didn't buy. 6 7 Q. And when was that? 7 Q. Okay. Your opinions regarding the hydrology of 8 Little Lake Valley really consists of the types of soils A. A year ago. Q. Okay. In terms of the infiltration that's 9 that are there, Yolo loam? A. That's correct. And by inference from the 10 occurring, is there anything that you've come across in 11 your review of documents provided to you that would 11 other discussion, groundwater goes up and down 12 suggest that the City of Willits or individuals who are 12 seasonally. 13 agents of the City of Willits knew that there was Q. Okay. And then really what we've been talking 14 excessive infiltration into the Willits' collection 14 about, the impact of inflow and infiltration rates both 15 going into the system and outflow of the system? 15 system? A. Only from the design documents where the peak 16 A. Correct. 17 flows are much higher than the average wet -- average dry Q. Okay. Are there any other subject matters that 18 you understand you're giving opinions on? 18 weather flows, which tells me that they anticipated a lot 19 more inflow into the system in the wet months versus the A. Yes. Well, you read those sentences of what 20 dry months. 20 I'm giving you opinions on. What exhibit is that? Q. And did that document have a statement MR. CROWLEY: I have it in front of me. 21 THE WITNESS: Here we go. "The operation of 22 regarding the level of infiltration versus just the level 23 the Willits Wastewater Treatment Plant in fact and as 23 of outflow?

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24 permitted."

25 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:

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A. You mean inflow to the system?

Q. Inflow. Sorry.

- Q. Correct.
- A. All right. We talked about the operation of
- 3 the plant in fact where I mentioned the variance
- 4 documents and the documents in support of the variance
- 5 and the leakage of the wetlands. And I have a comment on
- 6 "as permitted."
- Q. Okay.
- A. Okay? And this has to do with the variance
- 9 granted where they went from 1-to-100 discharge into the
- 10 creek to 10-to-1 -- or 1-to-10 in the creek. As I
- 11 understand it, the Board -- Water Board permitted that
- 12 because Willits said they would drop the
- 13 concentrations -- the effluent concentrations of BOD and
- 14 TDS from 30 to 10 milligrams per liter, as well as
- 15 monitor for total nitrogen, which wasn't being monitored
- 16 before; nitrogen was not.
- And they dropped one contaminant, which is a 17
- 18 byproduct of chlorination. I forgot the name of the
- 19 contaminant, but they no longer have to monitor for that
- 20 because they were going to UV.
- Q. Because UV gets rid of chlorine? 21
- A. It's a disinfectant just like chlorine.
- Q. And that's --23

14 constituents.

Q. Okay.

Q. Okay.

23 101 to 1 over 11.

Q. Okay.

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24 A. This is a byproduct of chlorination which isn't

1 of those contaminants, they said, "Hey, you've got a

4 million gallons a day at 30. Okay? That's 39 times

7 per gallon, that gives you the 325 pounds per day

8 permitted in the NPDES permit for the old plant.

10 both constituents, milligrams per liter, but times 4

12 plant. Well, that's 40 gallons per day times 8.34 is

11 million gallons because that's the new capacity of the

13 334, or something like that, pounds per day of those

19 but they said, "Okay. Now you can put ten times the

A. So you went from a dilution factor of 1 over

A. All right? So you decreased the dilution by a

20 amount you used to put in the creek per flow."

5 1.4 -- right? -- say, gallons of stuff for both TDS and

2 ten-milligrams-per-liter limit on the effluent," and the

3 previous pounds per day of that effluent was based on 1.3

6 BOD. If you multiply that by 8.34, the number of pounds

The new plant used the 30 -- used the 10 for

So the new permit allowed them to put more

A. And the tradeoff was -- not much of a tradeoff,

16 pounds per day than the old permit of those constituents.

25 going to happen anymore. But what they did is, for both

- 1 factor of nine and two-ninths, or something like, 9 times
- 2 11 is 99, plus two more is 101. All right?
- Q. Okay.
- A. Make sense? So that means not only are you
- putting more BDS -- BOD and TDS into the creek per day.
- 6 you're permitted to. I'm not saying to do it; they're
- 7 permitted to, but you dilute it one-ninth as much as
- 8 previously.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. And the other parameters didn't change their
- 11 concentrations -- effluent concentrations, so their
- 12 dilution factor is also one-ninth of what it was.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- A. So from the stream point of view and the end
- 15 product environmentally, the new permit is worse than the
- 16 old one.
- 17 O. Okay.
 - A. I understand that, as a practicality, you can't
- 19 put all the water into this slow-flowing creek.
- 20 understand why they did it, but you asked me -- the
- 21 question was my opinion of it. It's worse than it was.
- Q. Okay.
- 23 A. That's my opinion.
- 24 Q. However that is, is your understanding
- 25 consistent with what's been represented to the Water

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- 1 Quality Control Board and approved by them?
 - A. I'm assuming they approved it because it's in
 - 3 the NPDES permit. I don't know the process by which they
 - 4 went through it. All I know is here are the new
 - 5 standards and here's the new dilution ratio.
 - Q. You don't know what process the approving Board
 - 7 went through to arrive at those conclusions?
 - A. I assume they read the same report I did, the
 - 9 one prepared to show it wouldn't be a problem. And in
 - 10 that report, as I mentioned earlier, they assumed that
 - 11 the wetlands are going to be full and ameliorating the
 - 12 nitrogen, which hasn't -- five out of twelve months

 - 13 hasn't been ameliorated.
 - Q. Okay. With respect to the lawsuit between
 - 15 Brooktrails and Willits --
 - 16 A. Yes.
 - 17 Q. -- which is the subject matter of this case,
 - 18 are you aware of allegations by Brooktrails against
 - 19 Willits regarding the construction of the ponds and
 - 20 whether they are -- and whether there's defective design
 - 21 or defective construction?
 - 22 A. I don't know the basis of the suit.
 - 23 O. Okay. Do you know who River Watch is?
 - A. Yes. 24
 - Q. Are you also an expert for River Watch?

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A. Yes. Not an expert, I've been asked to prepare Q. Okay. 2 water balance -- updated water balance. A. And I compared, "Yeah, they're the same data," Q. Okay. So you say "water balance." Can you 3 so that's why this is the same chart. 4 explain what that means? Q. Okay. And do you have any understanding as to A. The spreadsheet I showed you before. 5 whether River Watch has actually filed suit against Q. Okay. 6 Willits? 6 7 A. This spreadsheet (indicating). 7 A. I don't know. Q. Above and beyond preparing that water balance Q. Have you been paid by River Watch? 8 9 spreadsheet which has been marked as Exhibit 174 --9 A. A. B. C. D. 10 And so you've received compensation which shows Q. 11 Q. -- have you been asked to do any other 11 up on --12 consulting work for River Watch? 12 A. No. A. No. 13 13 Q. -- this? 14 Q. Have you met with anybody from River Watch? A. No, those are only the Brooktrails. 14 A. Only Jack Silver in a meeting that Brooktrails 15 Q. So this invoice here --16 called. My very first contact with them was Jack and A. That's all Brooktrails. 16 17 that's all I've ever met. I've been communicating by 17 Q. Let me make a quick copy of this. 18 e-mail with Jerry Bernhaut. 18 A. You can have that if you want. Q. So you actually -- when you say you met with 19 MR. BARTOLOTTA: I'm going to mark it as an 20 Brooktrails, who did you meet with at Brooktrails? 20 exhibit. A. I forgot -- there's a Board member's name. 21 MR. CROWLEY: Okay. Fine. 22 I've forgotten his name. 22 (Off the record.) Q. So you met with a Board member and Jack 23 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Mark that next in order. 24 Silver --24 (Deposition Exhibit No. 175 was A. And Chris. marked for identification.) 90 25 92 Q. -- and Chris Neary to discuss your role as a 1 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 2 consultant for River Watch? Q. 175 I've marked is your invoices, and these are A. No. No. Just to go over the data I had 3 the amounts billed for the lawsuit we're here for today, 4 already -- I had already assembled as far as getting 5 records from the City. A. I don't know if at the time I was doing this Q. Okay. I guess my question is, was the work 6 work there was a lawsuit, but this is the work I've done 7 that you did about the infiltration on the output side of 7 for Brooktrails. 8 the plant related to the dispute between Brooktrails --Q. But you've also billed work directly for River 8 A. Yes. 9 Watch? 10 Q. -- and Willits? 10 A. Yes, apart from these. A. Yes. Yes. Q. Okay. And those bills, do they go to River 11 11 Q. Okay. And do you understand what allegations 12 Watch or do they go to Chris Neary? 13 had been made between Brooktrails and Willits as far A. River Watch. 13 14 as --14 Q. Okay. 15 A. No. 15 A. I can explain what went on there. 16 Q. -- outflow? 16 MR. CROWLEY: Well, wait a minute. My only 17 A. No. 17 Q. Okay. So the work that you've done there 18 concern is I don't know if when you say "I can explain 18 19 that's in front of you, that is based upon metering data 19 what went on there" if you're talking about your invoices 20 that was provided to you through the City of Willits 20 or ---21 public records request? 21 THE WITNESS: No, about the contract, my being 22 A. The data -- the 2013 data and a little bit 22 hired by River Watch. 23 before that, River Watch gave me that additional data, 23 MR. CROWLEY: My only concern with that is 24 and then Brooktrails through Chris also gave me that same 24 that --25 data. 25 THE WITNESS: Are we off the record? 91 93

Deposition of Donald G. Mc.	Edwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014
1 MR. CROWLEY: No, we can stay on the record. 2 My only concern about you doing that, and you can choose 3 to answer it how you see fit, is if you've been retained 4 as a consultant, my understanding is, in the River Watch 5 case 6 THE WITNESS: Right. 7 MR. CROWLEY: you don't know if a lawsuit 8 has been filed, you don't know if there's going to be a 9 designation of experts, and you may be revealing stuff 10 that would be considered attorney work product 11 information if there's been conversations with you and 12 the attorneys that represent River Watch. And you 13 haven't been designated as an expert in that case, and 14 Lee has asked you questions about it and I haven't 15 objected, but when you say "I can explain what went on 16 there," I just want you to be careful. 17 THE WITNESS: Well, maybe this will help. 18 Chris told me that Jerry called him and said, "Don can 19 share the information that's developed" 20 MR. CROWLEY: Okay. 21 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 22 Q. Okay. 23 A. But I got involved with River Watch after 24 about a year past after Jack met with Neary, and he 25 finally got on the ball and said, "Hey, can I hire"	1 Q. Okay. Were you walking around the plant? 2 A. Yeah, I live maybe half a mile from the plant, 3 on the same road as the plant — sort of the same road. 4 Q. Did anybody say anything to you about — 5 A. No. 6 Q. — you walking around? 7 A. There was nobody around. I came in the stream, 8 walked around and went home — walked off to the field 9 and went home. 10 Q. Well, at this juncture, were you photographing 11 just the ponds and the embankment or were you actually on 12 the plant property photographing plant equipment? 13 A. Oh, no, I never photographed plant equipment. 14 Q. The photographs that are in what you provided 15 to me, where do those come from? 16 A. That was a subsequent visit. 17 Q. Okay. 18 A. Much later. 19 Q. Okay. 20 A. A year later. 21 Q. Okay. 22 A. Where Chris asked me to go — because the plant 23 was constructed and operating and he wanted to see what 24 it actually looked like. So I met JC and his helper — I 25 forget, Nicky or something like that — and I just, you
1 "Do you mind if I hire Don to finish the" — "update the 2 water balance," which is what you see in front of you, 3 the updated water balance. 4 Q. Okay. So let me go through this. We've marked 5 as 174 your invoices — I'm sorry — 6 A. 175. 7 Q. — 175 are your invoices. Your first entry on 8 October 25th, 2012: 9 "Photograph ponds and embankments, 10 calculate freeboard in three ponds and 11 e-mail titled photographs to Chris Neary." 12 A. Uh-huh. 13 Q. How did you get access to the ponds and 14 embankments? 15 A. I just walked in there. 16 Q. Did you have permission to do so? 17 A. Chris said I did. He said, "You're an agent of 18 mine and you have free access." 19 Q. So Chris Neary gave you permission to access 20 the Willits' treatment property? 21 A. Right. Right. Right. As an agent of 22 Brooktrails or whatever he calls it. 23 Q. How long were you on the property when you did 24 these photographs? 25 A. Two hours maybe.	1 know — "Can I take pictures?" 2 "Sure." 3 So I took pictures of the ponds and the UV 4 building, all that stuff, laid out in the plant. 5 Q. You calculate freeboard in three ponds. What 6 does that mean? 7 A. Freeboard is the amount of remaining height 8 that the water can rise to before it overflows. So if a 9 pond is ten feet deep and it has two foot of water, you 10 have eight feet of freeboard. 11 Q. And how did you go about calculating that in 12 this case? 13 A. By looking at this photograph here. You can 14 see that that's a picture of the weir structure and one 15 of the berms across. Based on this geometrical 16 projection, I calculated that. 17 Q. Okay. And those are your handwritten numbers? 18 A. Yes, that's correct. 19 MR. BARTOLOTTA: I'm going to mark that next in 20 order. It's a photograph — actually, there are three 21 photographs. 22 (Deposition Exhibit No. 176 was marked for identification.) 23 24 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 25 Q. Can you explain what these three photographs

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	Deposition of Donald G. M	1cEdwa	ards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014
66 77 88 99 10 111 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	are? A. The first is — I don't know if it's the first and second pond, a median, or the second and third. I don't know which it is. But it looks like I have — you can see these projections across the weir structures, those straight lines. And I have 13 inches. That's the measured distance between the top rail and the bottom rail. And so I calculated what the actual freeboard was. It looks like seven and a half feet, because I took the top of the pond to be the top of the concrete structure. Q. Do you know if, in fact, that top of the concrete structure is the top of the pond? A. No, but it sure looks like it from — because you can see the top of the berm on the other side by following that median all the way around, and I noticed they were all the same elevation when I walked around. Didn't have to step down to go over there. Q. Did you confirm any of this with respect to looking at design plans or was it based upon what is in this exhibit? A. I don't know, but I did have a copy of these things, the design plans, and it doesn't show any elevation difference in the median and the berm. Q. What is the second page?	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q. But that's my job because you're an expert and I have to do that. Okay. Next you said "Review WWTP design plans." A. Yes, these are — you have some exhibits here. This was — Chris gave me a PDF file with all the construction plans. Q. Okay. Next you have: "Review NPDES permit, compute wetlands capacity, review photographs taken on 10/3/12 in sample location No. 2, and meet with Chris Neary." A. Right. Q. Okay. What is "compute wetlands capacity"? A. That is shown, I believe, on this exhibit here (indicating). MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. So we'll mark that next in order, and it's an Enhancement Wetlands Site Plan with handwritten notations. (Deposition Exhibit No. 177 was marked for identification.) BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: Q. Okay. So can you tell me what Exhibit 177 is? A. That is a to-be constructed view of the wetlands. And my — and I have three ponds that are
10 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A. I don't know. Q October 2012? A. Yes. Yes. I was going to say yes, that's correct. Q. And what's the significance of these findings in terms of the freeboard and the three ponds as calculated by you? A. Well, the ponds are they have between 6.3 and 7.5 feet of freeboard depending on how you look at the calculation. Q. And what does that mean? I mean, what relevance does that have to your opinions? A. At the time I didn't know, but I now think it should have been higher.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	separated by the weir structures and the barriers. And it shows the calculation of the scale in the area and then scaled up to what the actual feet were. It looks like one — if you look on the first pond where it says "Cell 1" — Q. Uh-huh. A. — there's a 100-foot notation there. Q. Correct. A. If you come down — straight down there, you can see two lines that follow the sides of that and it has — it says 0.3 feet — sorry, inches. So that distance on paper is .3 inches. That means 100 feet divided by .3 inches is one inch equals 333.33 feet so I could get the scale on this so I could work with a ruler instead of trying to estimate. Q. Did you actually receive something bigger than this? A. No, this is it. Q. And so the eight by ten sheet of paper is what

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20 A. Well, as my -- I photographed the ponds and

22 day.

24 questions.

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21 embankments and calculated -- so it's probably the same

Q. Okay. And I'm going to be asking obvious

A. Yeah, okay. That's fine.

A. I calculated the area.

21 or to-be built plan?

22 A. That's correct.

20 you received; you didn't receive a full-sized as built --

24 calculated the potential -- the volume in each pond?

Q. So then based upon your measurements, you

Deposition of Donald G. M.	(cEdwards, Ph.D. 4/21/2014	
1 Q. Right.	1 A. I've got 87 thousand 88 million gallons.	
2 A. And then I multiplied by ten feet because	2 Q. So with a possible five percent increase in	
3 that's the design height of the embankment. And I got	3 your calculation to account for the slope on the banks?	
4 about, as I said there, 800 about 85 million gallons.	4 A. It pretty much matches, yeah.	
5 That's 84.	5 Q. The amount that's represented and the amount	
6 Q. What's the .3 on the side there?	6 A. Yeah. There's no question that they're correct	
7 A. That's the distance on my scale that this 100	7 in their volume, yes.	
8 feet makes.	8 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Another undisputed fact.	
9 Q. Okay.	9 MR. CROWLEY: The case should settle.	
10 A. And that's how I got the one inch equals 333.	10 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:	
11 Q. And then the calculations where it's A1, 2 and	11 Q. Okay. If you turn the page, the public records	
12 3, those are separate calculations for each pond?	12 request that is outlined or discussed on November 19,	
13 A. Right.	13 2012, is that the one that we reviewed where you asked	
14 Q. Then why is the total at the bottom 1,133,000?	14 for the flow data?	
15 A. That's the number of square feet.	15 A. Yes.	
16 Q. That's the number of square feet?	16 Q. Okay. So go to the it's the invoice for	
17 A. And you'll notice I took the area of the bottom	17 February 2013. There's an entry on January 25th, 2013.	
18 of the ponds, not the top.	18 A. Invoice for February.	
19 Q. Okay. Are the is there a difference?	19 MR. CROWLEY: Invoice No. 3072.	
20 A. Yes, because what I did next is multiply by ten	20 THE WITNESS: Oh, 2013. Sorry. Yes, I was	
21 feet that area times ten feet. So I discount any	21 thinking the day, not the year. Sorry.	
22 volume gain by the side sloping as you come up. So the	22 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:	
23 bottom of the ponds have that area.	23 Q. The description of your work is:	l
24 Q. Right.	24 "Discuss with Chris Neary information	
25 A. Right? Assuming the sides were vertical	25 that I should provide to Chris regarding	
, ,		04
	, ==	٠, ١
1 O. Right.	1 completeness of City response to two	
, ,	1 completeness of City response to two 2 letters"	
	2 letters"	
2 A. — and held ten feet, that's the capacity I 3 calculated.	2 letters"	- 1.00
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discharge flow spreadsheet." Q. You were checking Brooktrails metered inflow, A. Yeah, it was confusing, the data they were 2 outflow? 3 giving me. I couldn't make sense of it. I didn't know A. I was not checking them, I was believing what 4 what went where. It was very confusing --4 was written and making sure the calculation was right as Q. You mean ---5 a percentage. A. -- from what they gave me. 6 Q. Okay. Did you keep notes of that? Q. So the information that they provided to you, 7 A. No. 8 you were comparing it to what? 8 O. You then note: A. Nothing. I was trying to make internal 9 "Check 2011 and 2012 percentage Brooktrails 10 consistency of it. 10 influent to WWTP." Q. Okay. But internal consistency with respect to 11 A. Yeah, I must have had a copy now that I see it, 12 other information that they had already provided you? 12 but I don't know where it is. A. Yes. Yes, the whole package. Q. Do you remember what those percentages were? 13 13 Q. And were you able to do that eventually? A. They were about 20 to 25, something like that. 14 14 15 A. Eventually, ves. Q. And that was for the entire year? 15 Q. Did you find consistent -- inconsistencies A. I believe so, because it says "Check 2011 and 17 between the flow rates that were provided and discussed 17 2012 percentage Brooktrails influent." Two years, I 18 in Exhibit 163 and the SMRs that were provided to you? 18 believe. A. Yes. Those were in the SMRs as part of it. 19 Q. Then you have: Q. Okay. And my question is, were they 20 20 "Reviewed flow data e-mailed from Chris 21 consistent? 21 and send reply e-mail with July-June 2010 A. Yes. Yes. I finally understood it once I knew and 2011 percent Brooktrails flows." 22 23 what was how and where. And I made sure that I directed 23 A. I did more than I remembered then, yeah. 24 all the effluent to the ponds first and then distributed 24 Q. Did you produce those e-mails? 25 where it went. 25 A. Yes. 106 108 1 Q. Those are part of the production that I have? 2 A. I think there was some question about -- the A. Oh, no. No. No. No. No, they're not. No, I 2 3 last one on February 28th. 3 don't -- I didn't keep them. Q. You --A. There was some question about what EFF-1 versus A. Maybe I can get them. I don't know if they're 6 EFF-2 was, and I finally got that straightened out. 6 deleted or not. Q. Understood. Okay. If you turn the page to the Q. Okay. Could you please look and see if you 8 April invoice. 8 have those e-mails? A. Uh-huh. A. I will. Certainly. 9 Q. On March 7th, 2013: MR. CROWLEY: Don, if you have them, call me 10 10 "Meet with Chris Neary and discuss 11 and let me know or e-mail them to me and I will send them 11 12 findings regarding infiltration of treated 12 to the -- I'll provide them. 13 water to groundwater and percent use of WWTP THE WITNESS: Sure. Okay. 13 14 by Brooktrails." 14 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 15 Can you explain what that entry means? Q. Okay. So now the next page, 5/1/2013 is your 16 meeting with Chris, Jack Silver and Brooktrails Board 16 A. Well, I showed him my spreadsheet as then -- at 17 its current progress, and then he asked me to check 17 members? 18 columns of Brooktrails water metered versus Willits and 18 A. There we go. Yeah, I think there was a lady 19 make sure they're correct in the office. 19 and a gentleman, Board members. 20 Q. Okay. Did you receive documentation regarding 20 Q. Why were you having a meeting? 21 the metered --21 A. Chris asked me to come. 22 A. I may have. I do not recall. It's not in my Q. Okay. And what was the subject that was 23 file. I don't know where it is or if I got it. 23 discussed at that meeting? Q. Okay. So you were looking at --24 A. The leakage from the ponds. 24 A. It's like a one-page thing, yeah. Q. Okay. Was there any discussion regarding 25 25 107 109

anything else other than the leakage from the ponds? 1 and cost of a spray irrigation study? 2 A. Not that I recall. A. Yes, but it's not spray irrigation, it's the 3 Q. Okay. Next page, June 2013: 3 evaluation of the water reclamation system. "Reply to Chris Neary's e-mail regarding Q. Okav. scope and cost of spray irrigation study." 5 5 A. Which involves spray irrigation as part of it. Is this a spray irrigation study that you were 6 6 Q. And do you know whether Chris Neary ever 7 proposing to do? 7 forwarded that to Willits? A. No. It's one required by the Order that was A. I do not know. 8 9 supposed to have been done by November 2011. 9 Q. Did you ever have any communication with Q. Okay. So why were you giving an opinion 10 Willits regarding doing consulting work for them on that 11 regarding the scope and cost of that study? 11 issue? A. Because Chris wanted me to prepare a cost 12 A. No. 13 estimate for doing it myself to compare with the bid from 13 Q. Flip over to September 2013 invoice. 14 the City because I guess his opinion was that whoever 14 A. Uh-huh. Yes. 15 Brooktrails -- Willits hired is going to be expensive and 15 Q. States, quote: "Research Geotracker for UST sites at 16 maybe I could do it cheaper, thereby saving Brooktrails 16 17 money. 17 which monitoring wells are still present to allow water level measurement to be made." 18 Q. Okay. And you actually did that, correct? 18 19 A. Yes, I did. 19 What's -- can you explain what that means? Q. So you made a written proposal to Willits to do A. Chris asked me to measure the water --20 21 work for them? 21 groundwater depth in Willits as of August. Formerly I 22 A. Yes. 22 had a whole bunch of sites in Willits that I had 23 Q. And --23 monitoring wells that I could go to and measure, but mine A. I don't know if it ever got submitted to 24 were all closed. I had no wells. So I went to 25 Willits, but I prepared it. 25 Geotracker, which it shows you -- if I type in and search 110 112 Q. Well, did you send it? "Willits, California," it pops up with a map showing the A. I sent it to Chris. Yes, as a matter of fact, 2 2 UST sites that are still active. 3 the next month I said I e-mailed it to him. Q. What does "UST" mean? MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. We'll mark that next in A. Underground storage tank sites, which means 5 they have monitoring wells around them. So I found one 5 order. (Deposition Exhibit No. 178 was 6 at the City Corporation Yard and one at the NCRA depot, 6 marked for identification.) 7 rail station. 7 And so it says I measured MW-6 at the Willits 9 yard and then I got permission from their staff at the 8 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: Q. Had you ever prepared such a plan in the past? 10 Corporation to measure one of their wells, several 9 11 monitoring wells. 10 12 Q. Okay. At this juncture, were you aware that And then I went and looked at Geotracker again 11 12 there was a lawsuit going on between Brooktrails and --13 to look at the reports for the Willits yard and looked at 13 A. I believe I was, yes. 14 their hydrographs for their previous ones and they were 14 MR. CROWLEY: Let him finish his question. 15 within the range of the seasonal variation. They weren't 16 high or weren't low. 15 THE WITNESS: He pauses. He has these pregnant 16 pauses. Q. Okay. And this was done obviously towards the 17 18 end of the dry season? MR. CROWLEY: Wait until there's no more 18 pauses. What it does is it makes --A. Yes. Because apparently Chris said that the 20 flows were unseasonably low. 19 THE WITNESS: It breaks it up. 20 MR. CROWLEY: And it makes her job really hard 21 Q. The flows from the --21 because she's trying to get your answer and then his 22 A. Into the City, into the plant. 22 question picks up. Q. Okay. Is there an explanation for that or did 23 23 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 24 you verify that that was an accurate representation? A. Yes. They're pretty low. Based on -- this is Q. That's 178. Is that a copy of a letter that

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25 you prepared and sent to Chris Neary regarding the scope

- 1 2013, right? So based on my spreadsheet, it's -- it's 2 pretty low compared to all -- all the yearly records. Q. Have you done any other water level 4 measurements in other times of the year other than those 5 that are done here? A. Not for Chris Neary and not in relation to this 7 project. 8 MR. CROWLEY: Well, I don't want to -- I'm not 9 sure if his question was limited to this case or this 10 project, to use your words. If it was, then you may have 11 answered it. I interpreted his question to be broader THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question? 13 14 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: Q. Sure. In relationship to your work in this 16 action, have you checked --MR. CROWLEY: Okay. You're right. 17 18 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: Q. -- the water levels at any other time of year? 20 A. No. 21 MR. CROWLEY: I misunderstood. 22 MR. BARTOLOTTA: That's fine. Q. Do you have any data that suggests the level of 24 increase, if any, that results at these two specific well 25 sites during wet weather season? In other words, you 1 have: 2 "Measure water level as 8.17 feet from 3 top of casing in MW-6 at NCRA Willits yard."
- Q. Right.
- A. And it shows you, part of the -- you've got to
- 3 show a graph or tabular form what the historic water
- 4 levels are throughout the year.
- Q. Okay.
- A. And when they used to monitor quarterly, it 6
- 7 would be January, March, June and September and so forth.
- 8 So I looked at that and I looked at the depth here, and
- 9 it was right in the middle of the variation.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. They were three feet; they were nine feet. So
- 12 this was not unusual for this time of year. I looked in
- 13 August, what the variation throughout the years in August
- 14 was, and this was not high or low.
- Q. Okay. And my question is, let's look at that 15
- 16 particular site, did you do anything in relation to your
- 17 work on this case to calculate what the difference is
- 18 between dry season and wet season?
- A. No. All Chris asked me to do is say if it's
- 20 abnormally low or abnormally high.
- 21 Q. For that time of year?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You then say:
- 24 "Expenses, rental of company-owned water
 - level meter used on August 13-14."

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- 4 I assume that that's the depth at which you hit
- 5 water level?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And that was done in August of 2013, correct?
- Q. And have you done anything to determine the
- 10 increase in the water level that results by testing in
- 11 January or February or at some point when it's been
- 12 raining?
- A. Yes. And I checked for the City of Willits 13
- 14 Corporation Yard.
- 15 Q. Okay. So that's the second one, correct?
- A. Right. And I looked there because they have
- 17 pretty good records. There hadn't been any work done on
- 18 the NCRA site for a long time.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. So the City of Willits has a very good history
- 21 on Geotracker.
- 22
- A. So I went to their latest monitoring report. I
- 24 don't know who the consultant was, but they're posted
- 25 there.

- A. I have a water level meter, electric meter.
- 2 It's a tape with a sensor at the bottom. You lower the
- 3 tape down and the two contacts at the bottom make contact
- 4 with the water, the circuit is completed, the bell rings
- 5 or the buzzer rings at the top so you know you hit water.
- 6 That's how you measure water levels in a monitoring well.
- 7 And there's a designated top of casing notch you measure
- 8 from. It's set, surveyed, so I was able to compare depth 9 to depth.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did that information you obtained doing
- 11 those measurements affect your opinion regarding the
- 12 infiltration from Willits' collection system?
- A. I don't understand the question. 13
- 14 Q. In other words, the information that you
- 15 obtained regarding the depth of the water in August 2013,
- 16 did that support your position one way or the other
- 17 regarding the infiltration from the collection system?
- A. I have no position. All I'm relying on is the
- 19 data that Willits gave me --
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. -- to tell me the inflow to the plant. That's
- 22 all I relied on.
- Q. Sure. And I'm trying to just figure out, I
- 24 mean you basically have said that your opinion is that
- 25 the inflows to the plant are caused by cracks or gaps in

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- 1 the collection system overall, Brooktrails and Willits,
- 2 right? You can't really distinguish between the two.
- 3 And so my question is, is I'm trying to figure out, is
- 4 there anything that you did independent of your
- 5 calculations to verify that it's a collection system
- 6 issue in terms of the volume during wet season?
- A. No.
- 8 Q. Okay. So let me ask it this way. Are you
- 9 making the assumption that this collection system,
- 10 assuming it was perfectly maintained and perfectly
- 11 constructed, that there would not be an increase or
- 12 decrease from wet to dry season; in other words, a closed
- 13 system?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Are there any variations that can occur from
- 16 dry weather to wet weather because of use of the system?
- 17 A. Use of the system means that if you get
- 18 increased flows in the system, more septage is being
- 19 created.
- 20 Q. More what?
- 21 A. Septage, more water -- more water to treat,
- 22 solids and so forth. That can only come from humans. So
- 23 unless there's an uptick in that kind of activity, that's
- 24 the only reason I can see an increase in flow. And I
- 25 don't see any reason for that uptick of activity over

- 1 the average million gallons a day or the million gallons
- 2 a month. It's more instructive to look at million
- 3 gallons a day because that takes the bias about the
- 4 number of days in a month away.
- 5 So if you look at, for instance, December of
- 6 2012 --
- 7 Q. Yes.
- 8 A. 3.279 million gallons a day average.
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. And you go back to August of '11, .678. And
- 11 you'll notice that if you go from August, September
- 12 October, November, it gets bigger and bigger and bigger
- 13 as you get toward the winter. And the highest there is 14 January of '12, which is 2.7, which is more than three
- 15 times the stuff in August.
- 16 Q. I'm sorry. I missed where you're looking at.
- 17 A. 12/11.
- 18 Q. Yes. 12/11.
- 19 A. 1/12. I'm sorry.
- 20 Q. 1/12.
- 21 A. Yes. That's the highest of that series, 2.714.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. And then you go back five months or four months
- 24 to August of '11.
- 25 Q. Right.

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- 1 months.
- Q. So let me just kind of understand this. So in
- 3 terms of the inflow into the plant, it's either going to
- 4 be increase in human usage?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Or that there are leaks in the system that are
- 7 allowing groundwater to get into the system?
- B A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Any other third, fourth possibility to account
- 10 for the increase in flow?
- 11 A. I can't think of any.
- 12 Q. Okay. How much increase in flow is there?
- 13 A. Three times from -- about three times.
- 14 Q. Do you actually have the numbers that it goes
- 15 from this to this?
- 16 A. The City has the numbers.
- 17 Q. Okay. But do you have them in one of your
- 18 exhibits?
- 19 A. Yes. Exhibit 174.
- 20 Q. Okay. I have Exhibit 174. I just have to find
- 21 mine.
- 22 So you're looking at a particular section on
- 23 the page. Can you tell me what you're looking at?
- 24 A. It's just past the date column, the "Influent"
- 25 "Average million gallons a day." We can either look at

- 1 A. It's .678. So from the end of summer to the
 - 2 rainy season, it's increased by four times, about. A
 - 3 little less than four.
 - 4 Then if you go to July of '12, 7/12, it's .82
 - 5 and then it really increases to 12/12 to 3.27. That's
 - 6 about a fourfold increase as well.
 - 7 Q. Okay.
 - 8 A. That's why I think that the groundwater rises,
 - 9 the pipes leak, more flow goes into the sanitary sewer
 - 10 based on this data alone.
- 11 Q. Have you done anything to correlate these
- 12 calculations with precipitation?
- 13 A. No.
- MR. CROWLEY: It's a belated objection. When
- 15 you use the term "these calculations" --
- MR. BARTOLOTTA: I apologize. The calculations
- 17 on Exhibit 174-A.
 - 8 MR. CROWLEY: Well, my objection was, I didn't
- 19 know that he'd actually calculated these amounts versus
- 20 it was from data provided by the City of Willits.
- 21 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
- 22 Q. Okay. Are you aware of the rate at which the
- 23 depth of groundwater increases or decreases?
 - 4 A. In a general way, yes. I mean, if you get a
- 25 really heavy rain, three or four days later, you've got

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BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP CSD vs. CITY OF WILLITS 4/21/2014

- Deposition of Donald G. McEdwards, Ph.D. Q. Do you have any data from any date earlier than 1 water levels that are much higher. Q. And how quickly does that dissipate? 2 May 10th, 2010? A. About the same time it took to rise. It stays A. No, I don't. 4 a while. Actually, it rises -- I don't know. I can't O. Would that be information that Willits would 5 say with precision. 5 likely have available? Q. In terms -- still looking at that A. I don't know. Chris told me that they didn't 7 Exhibit 174-A, for July of 2012, you have this -- it 7 have flow meters for like a span of eight years or 8 something like that. And maybe 2010 was the first time "E&D meters out, used average percent, 9 they were recording flows. I don't know. 9 10 INF-1 of June '10 and '13." MR. BARTOLOTTA: Take a break for two seconds. A. Yeah, the meters were out so I had to average 11 11 (Off the record.) 12 them. So I picked the same month in the two years and I 12 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Okay. We're back on the 13 averaged those. 13 record. 14 Q. And then the same thing with July? Q. Are you aware of any other data prior to May 15 A. Yes. 15 2010 that could potentially be used to calculate the same 16 Q. You did that --16 thing you've calculated in 174-A? A. Yeah, I used the same number as July '10. 17 A. No. I saw something with flow rates that 18 However, if we want to use the .82 number because it 18 had -- had, like, '92 or '90 they had flow rates. I've 19 wasn't recorded but just estimated, and I had to estimate 19 forgotten -- I thought there was like a ten-year span. 20 it to complete the worksheet, to keep the monthly 20 May have even been 2001, I don't know, where they were 21 tabulation going. If we go to October of '12, it's .673. 21 missing flow. The meters weren't working. I do not know 22 Two months later it's 3.279. That's like five times, 22 what happened before that, if the self-monitoring reports 23 four and a half times, in two months. 23 are different or whatever. I don't know. 24 Q. Right. But you also don't have any information 24 Q. The last invoice I have here is from December 25 as to whether there was precipitation that would have 25 of 2013. Do you have invoices that you sent to Mr. Neary 122 1 resulted in the groundwater level increasing, correct? 1 since then, I mean, the last three months? A. No. No. A. I don't think so. I think I got reactivated, Q. Okay. I mean, I'm just -- correct? In terms 3 you might say, on this project this month. 4 of -- well, let me ask you, have you reviewed any O. Reactivated? 5 information wherein -- well, strike that. 5 A. Yeah, I believe so. I mean, I thought I Did Chris Neary ever tell you that Willits had 6 checked all my invoices. If I hadn't, if I missed them
- 7 understood there was an increased flow as a result of 8 defects in the collection system and that this 9 information had been withheld from Brooktrails during 10 negotiation --11 A. No. Q. -- on the cost of the plant? 12 13 A. No, I have no knowledge of that. Q. Okay. The information that you have in
- 15 Exhibit 174-A, did you get information from an earlier
- 16 date going back before May 2010?
- 17 A. No.
- Q. Was the information that you collected or had
- 19 available to you from the earlier plant consistent with
- 20 the pattern in 2011, '12 and '13?
- A. They appear to be a lot higher in -- that's two
- 22 years. Yes, from May '10 to May '11, because the lowest
- 23 ones are in August, a .71, but the highest ones are still
- 24 pretty high. March of '11 is 3.469, so generally the
- 25 pattern holds, but the flows are higher for some reason.

- 7 in 2014, I'll send them, but I thought I did check in 8 2014.
- 9 Q. Did you meet with Mr. Neary in preparation for 10 today?
- A. Yes, vesterday. 11
- O. At his office? 12
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Nice Easter meeting?
- 15 A. Yes, very relaxed. We both said grace and then
- 16 we proceeded.
- Q. You have a note here in your invoice for 17
- 18 December 2013:
- 19 "Provide e-mail reply to Chris Neary
- 20 regarding Mike Phelan's e-mail to Chris
- 21 Neary."
- 22 Do you remember what that is?
- A. Oh, Phelan or "Phelan," whatever, he -- I think 23
- 24 that was a letter complaining that when I visited the
- 25 wastewater treatment plant. I was rude and discourteous.

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- 1 That was news to me. So I said, "Me?" Because I wasn't.
- Q. Okay. You know, I had a brief opportunity to
- 3 look at the documents you produced. I wanted to briefly
- 4 ask about the photographs that were included in your file
- 5 that showed the outer slope of the pond berms.
- 6 A. Right. It's a view of parallel -- a profile 7 you might say.
- 8 Q. Yes.
- 9 A. You see the inside and the outside?
- 10 Q. Correct. What did those depict that was
- 11 significant to you in terms of photographs?
- 12 A. The water level of the -- in the wetlands in
- 13 relation to the level of the land outside.
- 14 Q. And you had said something about the vegetative
- 15 growth?
- 16 A. Yeah. The water level was about from -- just
- 17 looking at the picture, about maybe a foot, a foot and a
- 18 half higher than the growth, the land the growth was
- 19 occurring on. So I could visualize a flow pattern of
- 20 water going underneath and coming up in that situation.
- 21 It was not out of the question that that growth was due
- 22 to water coming from the wetlands.
- 23 Q. Okay. What was it about the vegetation itself
- 24 that led you to believe that?
- 25 A. It's anomalous.

- I A. No.
- 2 O. Okay. In terms of the soil compaction within
- 3 the ponds, do you have an understanding as to what the
- 4 design plans require?
- 5 A. My understanding is no compaction was
- 6 specified. There was nothing to meet as far as
- 7 compaction standards in the bottom of the pond, or a
- 8 liner.
- 9 Q. Is there a reason why you understood that was 10 the design plan?
- 11 A. Because it was not in the design. I read the 12 design plans.
- 13 Q. No; I know, but was there an explanation as to
- 14 no liner or compaction was required?
- 5 A. No. There was no disclaimer saying, "We did
- 16 not include a liner because..." "We did not compact the
- 17 soil because..." Nothing like that.
- 18 Q. Okay. Do you know anything about the soil
- 19 conditions in that location and how that would affect or
- 20 not affect the need for compaction?
- 21 A. Yes. It's Yolo loam which is a sand/silt
- 22 mixture. It's not clay. And it's more permeable than
- 23 clay.
- 24 Q. Meaning?
- 25 A. Meaning water will infiltrate readily through

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- 1 Q. How so?
- A. It only exists in one place in that whole area
- $\, 3 \,$ and that's immediately around the embankment on the
- 4 outside
- 5 Q. What was the type of plant that was growing?
- 6 A. Same plants that were next to it but more
- 7 vigorous and higher and greener.
- Q. So your -- that plant growth, that is evidence
- 9 to you that there is water leakage that is feeding those
- 10 plants and making them healthier than the plants that are
- 11 further away from the berm?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. Any other evidence regarding leakage? We
- 14 talked about basically the water levels and your
- 15 computations as to what should be in the ponds and what 16 you found.
- 17 A. I'd expected them to be higher if it's a
- 18 wetlands that are actually storing things.
- 19 Q. Okay. And then --
- 20 A. To be fair, I could be wrong. Maybe that's the
- 21 design level. Whatever, I don't know.
- 22 Q. Okay. Then the vegetation that's growing on
- 23 the -- close to but on the outside of the berm?
- 24 A. Right.
- 25 Q. Anything else?

- 1 it.
- 2 Q. And is there anything that you've seen in terms
- 3 of the design plans that -- well, strike that.
- 4 In what you've read, was there ever discussions
- 5 regarding placing a liner in the ponds?
- 6 A. Not --
- 7 Q. When I say "a liner," I mean clay.
- 8 A. It could be a plastic liner too.
- 9 O. Okav.
- 10 A. Any relatively impermeable liner. No, there
- 11 was not.
- 12 Q. Have you ever worked on a project to address
- 13 questions of issues related to lining of ponds or
- 14 reservoirs?
- 15 A. I reviewed documents years ago, and this spec
- 16 was -- the conductivity had to be ten to the minus six
- 17 centimeters per second or less to qualify as a relatively
- 18 impermeable liner.
- 19 Q. Okay. So I just want to ask you about some of
- 20 the documents that were contained in the directory and
- 21 whether they were significant to you. One is an Agenda
- 22 Summary Meeting, July 24th, 2013 from the City of
- 23 Willits. This was part of your file.
- 24 A. Oh, I think this is where the City contracted
- 25 them to do a -- yeah, the reclamation study, the work

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plan reclamation study that I put a proposal in to Chris. 1 nitrogen levels down. 2 Q. Okay. 2 Q. Okay. A. That's the first time I've seen that. I think 3 A. Right. So their ten parts per million could be 3 4 this is what Chris gave me yesterday on his thumb drive 4 met, their criteria could be met. So part of that -- so 5 which I gave you. I've only had it since yesterday. 5 I realized yesterday looking at that and said, "Wait, Q. Oh, so wait a second. The thumb drive you gave 6 they accepted this variance based on this plant acting 7 me was actually provided to you by Chris Neary? 7 this way, being operated this way," and I found out it's A. Yes. Documents on it -- I went home -- from 8 not operating this way. 9 the documents Chris gave me -- there's documents on Q. Okay. 10 there. So all the documents besides what's in my 10 Which is why we have five exceedances of 11 folder ---11 nitrogen in the wet season for nitrogen, double what it 12 Q. Which is right here? 12 should be. A. No. No. Folder on the thumb drive. There's a 13 13 Q. Okay. A. Should be ten. It's reported once at 22 and 14 manila folder icon in my thumb drive. 14 15 Q. Okay. 15 four times 24 or something like that. In the twenties. A. I just copied my directory over to the thumb 16 And we only were able to get it down when the flow 17 drive. 17 stopped, the storm water stopped. 18 Q. Okay. Q. Okay. And so what is your explanation as to A. And all the files with it, right? 19 why those nitrogen exceedances occurred? 19 20 Q. Right. A. I believe they didn't keep the water in the A. So anything outside of that is what Chris gave 21 enhanced wetlands long enough for that to occur. 21 22 me yesterday to review before I came here. Q. And that's because the volume that occurred 22 23 Q. And did you review it? 23 during wet seasons was too high? 24 A. Yes. A. It's not too high. They often just dumped it 25 Q. Okay. Did anything that Chris Neary gave you 25 directly into the creek. 130 132 1 to review affect your opinions you're expressing here MR. CROWLEY: Just for the record, identify 2 today? 2 what exhibit you're looking at, please. 3 A. Yes. THE WITNESS: I'm looking at my sheet, 174. Q. Okay. I'm just trying to figure out how to ask 4 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 5 you about that if I don't have them in front of me Q. So I guess what I'm asking is, in other words, 6 because I don't have just, you know, what you got 6 the volume of water coming in was too much for the plant yesterday versus what you had in your file already. 7 to handle in the proper way and so it was being dumped THE WITNESS: Can we go off the record? 8 into the creek directly? 8 9 MR. BARTOLOTTA: Sure. 9 A. No. I'm wrong. (Off the record.) 10 10 THE WITNESS: There was a report that Chris A. Actually, I'm looking at the influent for 2013. 11 11 12 gave me. I forget who prepared it. It was a consulting 12 Q. Okav. 13 firm that was not SHN. 13 A. In 2013 it's pretty moderate. This is the time 14 in August when Chris asked me to check the water levels 14 MR. CROWLEY: GHD? THE WITNESS: Oh, GHD. It was a completely 15 in the valley through monitoring wells --16 third party that was -- they were describing why it would O. Right. 16 17 be okay, and under a lot of studies, to go from the 17 A. -- to explain if it could be low flow, and 18 1-to-100 dilution ratio to the 10-to-1 for the creek 18 they're all pretty moderate flows. 19 discharge. 19 O. Right. 20 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: A. So they were out of compliance for nitrogen in 21 one, two, three -- I think August through December when 21 Q. Okay. A. And throughout that whole study, they assumed 22 flows are pretty moderate. So I can't explain that. I 23 don't know why they were high. 23 the wetlands were actually holding water --Q. Okay. What are the possible explanations? 24 Q. Okay. 24

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A. -- with some retention time, enough to drop the

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A. I don't know. I'm not a chemist or I don't

1 know anything about operating a sewage treatment plant. 1 underreporting and often not reporting when the water Q. Okay. I appreciate that. I know very little 2 level over this smooth weir surface is less than an inch 3 myself. Mr. Crowley and I. 3 and a half. So it records zero and there's actually flow MR. CROWLEY: I know less than you. 4 going. THE WITNESS: That's really all I learned from Q. So this is influent? 5 6 review of the documents that Chris gave me. A. Influent. 6 7 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA: 7 Q. Coming in? Q. Okay. The self-monitoring reports that you 8 Right, which makes my influent minus effluent 9 for the whole plant -- no; influent minus effluent from 9 received ---10 the treatment system even bigger than recorded on my 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. -- I know I just saw a whole bunch of them, 11 spreadsheet. 12 those were provided by the City of Willits? Q. So that report from Brelje & Race that you 13 reviewed, do you recall what years they were talking A. Yes. 13 14 about in terms of the metering being off? 14 Q. And was --A. They said they hadn't changed the flume since 15 A. And River Watch for the year 2013 and a couple 15 16 months before. 16 the beginning. It's been there. It empties into 36 or 17 some big pipe comes into this catchment and they have the Q. Okay. And those were -- I think you said those 18 were consistent with the data that you were given on the 18 flume right there. Q. Okay. So I'm going to read a paragraph from 20 20 the First Amended Brooktrails Township Cross-Complaint. A. Yes, right. Q. But basically their self-monitoring would be 21 21 A. Okay. 22 reading them in meters and writing it down on --22 Q. It says: A. That's all they're doing, yes. 23 "All times prior to the execution by 24 Q. And then that's likely what they used to 24 Brooktrails of the first USDA loan agreement," 25 compile the month-to-month amounts? 25 which I believe was in 2004, "the City of 134 136 A. That's exactly what they did. They're their Willits concealed from Brooktrails the 2 material fact that the City of Willits had 2 readings, right. Q. Okay. 3 excessive inflow and infiltration to the 3 4 City's collection system." A. You better keep that. Q. I'm going to read some things --5 Okay. Do you have that in mind? A. What's that? I don't know, is that yours? It 6 7 got mixed around here. 7 Q. Okay. Do you have any documentation regarding Q. I don't think so. I think that's yours. I 8 flow rates that are any earlier than 2010? 9 don't want to take something out of the file. 9 Q. Do you have any documents that you've seen that In terms of your ability to obtain records from 10 11 would indicate the City of Willits was aware of increased 11 the City of Willits through public records requests, you 12 did get flow data -- metered flow data for the years you 12 flow rates as a result of infiltration in the collection 13 requested, correct? 13 system prior to 2010? 14 A. Yes. A. No. 14 Q. And you had indicated that you understood there Q. Do you have any information or documents that 16 would indicate that there was concealment by the City of 16 were metering issues; in other words, problems with the 17 meters themselves for years prior? 17 Willits regarding excessive inflow and infiltration to 18 A. No. I think metered -- today, they still 18 the City's collection system? 19 exist. 19 A. Prior to 2010? 20 Oh, in that connection, there was another 20 Q. Yes. 21 report I reviewed that Chris gave me yesterday that 21 A. No. 22 talked about the partial flume that meters the influent Q. And, in fact, the information that you have 23 coming in, and there was an engineering firm that tested 23 from 2010 to today was provided to you by a public 24 it, Brelje & Race. I read their report on that, and they 24 records request? A. That's correct. 25 reported it could be off like 10 or 20 percent 25 137 135

- Q. Was there any indication that they were
- 2 unwilling to provide that to you?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you reviewed any documents regarding
- 5 representations by the City of Willits that it had an
- 6 active and effective program to control and reduce the
- 7 inflow and infiltration of water into its collection
- 8 system?
- 9 A. No.
- MR. CROWLEY: Lee, what paragraph are you 10
- 11 reading from?
- 12 MR. BARTOLOTTA: 12.
- 13 MR. CROWLEY: Thank you.
- 14 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
- Q. Were you provided any documents from the
- 16 Regional Water Quality Control Board that required the
- 17 City of Willits to develop a plan for addressing high
- 18 water -- high winter flows into the wastewater plant
- 19 which high winter flows were caused by excessive inflow
- 20 and infiltration?
- A. No. 21

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18 plant.

21 gallons?

A. Yes.

Q. Yes.

- 22 Q. Have you ever talked to Chris Neary about
- 23 documents that the Water Quality Control Board had
- 24 produced regarding issues of inflow and infiltration with

Q. So in terms of your calculations on 174-A, when

3 I'm looking at this -- so, for example, if I'm looking at

A. Oh, the month after, yes, 43. Yes. Okay.

14 102 million gallons, is it your opinion that that would

16 point that it infiltrates the collection system?

Q. And so let me ask you, I mean --

A. Wait. December 2010?

15 be caused exclusively by the water table increasing to a

Q. Okay. And is that the same opinion with 20 respect to the December 2010 increase to 103 million

A. Yes, infiltrates the sewer pipes running to the

Q. Okay. So in terms of that bump that goes up to

Q. And the month before was only 35.

4 December 2012 -- okay? -- that's where it was basically

25 the City of Willits' collection system?

A. Not that I can recall.

5 102 million gallons for the month.

O. The month after was 43.

A. Right.

A. Right.

A. 21.

O. Excuse me?

- A. Yes. Yes.
- Q. Would you expect that if we were to look at
- 3 rainfall totals for these months, that they would
- 4 correlate?
- A. Yes, the rise in groundwater is correlatable 6 with rainfall.
- 7 Q. So that --
- 8 A. Preceding rainfall.
- Q. So that should -- if it was -- your scientific
- 10 hypothesis would be that those would be periods of
- 11 increased rainfall?
- A. As a matter of fact, you could probably go to
- 13 the City of Willits Corporation Yard records for their
- 14 monitoring reports and look at years of actual water
- 15 level fluctuations in their monitoring wells.
- Q. Okay. Is that on a monthly basis that they do
- 17 that, do you know?
- A. It used to be. Then it went quarterly. But
- 19 they may have been there long enough where it's monthly.
- Q. Is there monitoring data that's done on a
- 21 monthly basis anywhere in the City of Willits that you
- 22 could use to correlate the data you have in
- 23 Exhibit 174-A?
- 24 A. I don't know. The City wells may have some
- 25 kind of recorder in there. I don't know. There may be

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- 1 private monitoring wells that they have a recorder.
 - 2 Yeah, there may be stream flow gauges that people operate
 - 3 that record. I don't know.
 - Q. Okay.
 - A. As a matter of fact, I think I was monitoring
 - 6 monthly water level --
 - Q. You're the person who would know, right? 7
 - A. -- at Dave Rupe's place on Main Street. 8
 - 9 Q. Who is he?
 - 10 A. He's owner of the property at Main Street, on
 - 11 this corner of California and Main. And he abandoned the
 - 12 wells years ago, but the Water Board would have all those
 - 13 records. And I think I was in a monthly -- and Persico
 - 14 Fossil Fuels on Shell Lane, I was doing that too,
 - 15 monthly. So I have monthly hydrographs in many, many
 - 16 wells where I measured the water level elevation.
 - Q. With respect to the geographical region that 17
 - 18 we're discussing, you know, I've been to Willits a
 - 19 handful of times in my life. Is there a uniform soil

 - 20 condition in the Willits city?
 - A. I don't know, but it sure looks like it because
 - 22 the vegetation looks pretty much the same everywhere.
 - Q. Would you expect that wells in different places
 - 24 would show -- and I'm not asking you to -- I'm just
 - 25 asking your professional opinion. Would the wells show a

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SIMSON REPORTING

- 1 similar depth of groundwater in the region?
- 2 A. They do and did, because I sampled several
- 3 sites in Willits. Oh, and Shuster's Transportation too,
- 4 and I have water levels from that and that's just
- 5 upstream. That's on Broaddus Creek.
- 6 Q. Okay. And have you ever done anything in terms 7 of water monitoring levels at Brooktrails?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. In terms of the geographical area that
- 10 Brooktrails encompasses, would you expect the same thing
- 11 or is it different geographically?
- 12 A. It's really hilly and really different. It's
- 13 mountainous.
- 14 Q. Okay. So you would expect --
- 15 A. Yeah, because it's not flat like the valley.
- 16 O. Okav.
- 17 A. Because water will tend to, you know, settle
- 18 out essentially in the valley. There's nowhere else to 19 go.
- 20 Q. Okay. And so is the City of Willits in a
- 21 geographical valley?
- 22 A. Yes. Little Lake Valley is the basin, and it
- 23 floods every year.
- 24 Q. Okay. In terms of the inflow into the plant,
- 25 it's your understanding that the only inflow is from the

- 1 ground. It's not like months at a time.
- 2 Q. Right.
- 3 A. But that would contribute -- obviously when it
- 4 went down, it would contribute to high water levels.
- Q. Okay. Is there any way that that could be
- 6 flowing directly into a collection system that goes into 7 the plant, other than defects in the collection system?
- 8 A. Only if you have sewer manholes that leak and
- 9 water is seeping into them as it's flooding.
- 0 Q. Well, if you had a manhole that was under
- 11 water, wouldn't that potentially contribute a lot of
- 12 water --
- 13 A. That's like a leak in a pipe though. It's not
- 14 an open hole. You've got a manhole there. Maybe you've
- 15 got a hole to lift it up with so water leaks into that.
- 16 Q. Okay. Are there any other opinions that you
- 17 intend on expressing at the time of trial?
- 18 A. The ones I've expressed today and perhaps
- 19 others I may come to after more study and people ask me
- 20 to look at other things before trial.
- 21 Oh, and if asked about Tom Herman, I have an
- 22 opinion about him.
- 23 Q. Okay. Do you have an opinion about him now?
- 24 A. Yes.

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25 Q. What's your opinion about him?

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- 1 sewers' collection systems?
- 2 A. Yes. And I just -- I just want to mention
- 3 flooding because there are times of the year when you
- 4 can't drive parts of Willits because the water is a foot
- 5 deep. It's over the ground surface.
- 6 Q. Right.
- 7 A. So the groundwater was above the ground.
- 8 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry; what?
- 9 THE WITNESS: The water is over the ground
- 10 surface.
- MR. CROWLEY: The groundwater is above the
- 12 ground.
- 13 THE WITNESS: The groundwater is above the
- 14 ground.
- 15 BY MR. BARTOLOTTA:
- 16 Q. Okay. But --
- 17 A. So it could go into manholes, you know.
- 18 Q. Right. And that's what I'm trying to find out,
- 19 if there's any surface runoff other than into the
- 20 collection system that would be increasing the input.
- 21 A. But I've lived there since 1996.
- 22 O. Lunderstand.
- 23 A. Real close to the sewage treatment plant, and
- 24 the flooding only happens maybe two or three or four days
- 25 in a row and that's all, as far as the water being above

- A. He's not an engineer and he played like he was
- 2 for years.
- Q. Okay.
- 4 A. He was so-called town engineer -- City
- 5 Engineer.
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. And he's just a surveyor.
- 8 Q. Okay
- 9 A. And I believe he's just a grandfathered
- 10 surveyor. He never took the test.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. So he was doing all sorts of cost estimates for
- 13 the City on other things that he shouldn't have been
- 14 doing. He shouldn't have been calling himself an
- 15 engineer because you can't do that by the Business and
- 16 Professions Code.
- 17 Q. Okay. Anything else?
- 18 A. I think he was involved in the design of the
- 19 plant.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. And he shouldn't have been.
- 22 Q. So in terms of your readiness to prepare for
- 23 trial, are you expecting to receive additional
- 24 documentation to help your opinions?
- A. I don't know.

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SIMSON REPORTING

Deposition of Donata G. McE	uv	varas, Fn.D. 4/21/2014	
1 Q. Have you had a conversation with Mr. Neary	1	CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS	
2 about whether additional documents	2	State of California)) ss.	
3 A. No, nothing has been said about what's coming	3	County of	
4 up and so forth, I don't know, but I may have other	4	I, DONALD G. McEDWARDS, Ph.D., hereby declare	
5 opinions based on what he may discover and he's looking	5	under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing	
,	6	testimony recorded on pages 1 to 147, inclusive, and I	
6 at.	7	certify that:	
7 Q. Okay. Well, if additional information and	В	I have no corrections.	
8 documentation are provided to you that has that either	9		
9 support or contradict or provide you with new opinions,	1	I have corrections, as reflected by letter or handwritten corrections made to the original	
10 then I'm reserving the right to redepose you with respect	10	transcript, and that I now approve my deposition as true and correct.	
11 to those new opinions.	11		
12 A. Understood.	12	Date DONALD G. McEDWARDS, Ph.D.	
13 Q. And obviously there may be experts who are your	13	000	
14 counterpart on our side and you'd be able to comment upon	14	DISPOSITION OF TRANSCRIPT	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	15	I certify that the witness was given the	
15 what those opinions were, but it sounds like you're not	16	statutory allowable time within which to read and sign the deposition, and that:	
16 certain as to whether additional documentation might be	17	The witness failed to appear for such reading	
17 given to you; is that correct?	18	and signing.	
18 A. That's correct.	19	The witness has waived review/signature on the record.	
19 Q. So to the extent that there is additional	20	The witness has reviewed and signed the	
20 documentation well, first of all, what you provided to	21	transcript and has made (no) changes.	
21 me on the disk, other than the deposition transcript you	22	A letter of correction has been submitted and is attached to the transcript.	
22 have there, is the stuff in that manila folder on the		is accached to the transcript.	
23 disk?	23		
24 A. Yes.	24	Date LUEL J. SIMSON, CSR No. 4720	
25 Q. So I have everything on that on my hard	25		
146	1		
		148	
1 drive now	1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
	1 2	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA)	
2 A. Yes, you do.		REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	
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Certified Shorthand Reporters
2200 Range Avenue, Suite 106
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April 25, 2014

Donald G. McEwards, Ph.D. c/o The McEdwards Group 1025 Hearst-Willits Road Willits, California 95490

Re: BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT vs. CITY OF WILLITS (Deposition taken April 21, 2014)

Dear Dr. McEdwards:

The original transcript of your deposition taken in the above-entitled action has been prepared and is available at this office for your review and correcting, if necessary. If you are represented by counsel who has a copy of your deposition, you may review that copy and submit to this office by letter any corrections you wish to make.

Unless otherwise directed, the original transcript will be sealed 35 days from the date this notice is sent. If you do not wish to read your deposition transcript, please sign below and return within 35 days from the date this letter was mailed.

You may call to set up an appointment at this office Monday through Friday between the business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Very truly yours,

Kim Y. Rotherham CSR No. 7397

Signature

Date

SIMSON REPORTING

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